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M E M O I R S

O F

GEORGE BERKELEY, D. D.

LATE BISHOP OF CLOYNE IN IRELAND;

THE SECOND EDITION,

WITH IMPROVEMENTS.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR J. MURRAY, IN FLEET-STREET;
AND R. FAULDER, NEW BOND-STREET.

M. DCC. LXXXIV.

THE HISTORY OF

THE CITY OF LONDON
FROM THE FIRST
SETTLEMENT OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BARNHART
TO THE PRESENT
STATE OF THE CITY

BY JOHN STOW

THE SECOND EDITION

REVISED AND
CORRECTED BY
JOHN STOW

—

LONDON

PRINTED BY
JOHN STOW
AT THE SIGN OF THE
CROWN

IN THE YEAR 1633

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1347
A2
1784

ADVERTISEMENT.

TO authenticate the following Memoirs of Bishop Berkeley, it is thought proper to inform the Reader, that the particulars were for the most part communicated by the Rev. Robert Berkeley, D.D. rector of Middleton in the diocese of Cloyne, brother to the Bishop, and yet living; and the whole was drawn up by the Rev. Joseph Stock, D. D. late F. T. C. D.

The Editor takes this opportunity of returning his sincere thanks to the Rev. Dr. Stock, rector of Conwell, Raphoe, for his trouble in compiling and revising this Edition; and to the Rev.
Mervyn

iv ADVERTISEMENT.

Mervyn Archdall, rector of Attannah, Offory, and the Rev. Henry Gervais, LL. D. archdeacon of Cashel, for their obliging communication of the letters to Thomas Prior, Esq. and Dean Gervais, which have added so much to the value of this Edition.

L I F E

O F

BISHOP BERKELEY.

DR. GEORGE BERKELEY, the learned and ingenious bishop of Cloyne in Ireland, was a native of that kindom, and the son of WILLIAM BERKELEY, of Thomastown, in the county of Kilkenny, whose father went over to Ireland, after the Restoration (the family having suffered greatly for their loyalty to Charles I.), and there obtained the collectorship of Belfast.

Our Author was born March 12, 1684, at Kilcrin, near Thomas-town; received the first part of his education at Kilkenny school, under Dr. Hinton; and was admitted a pensioner of Trinity College, Dublin, at the age of fifteen, under the

B

tuition

tuition of Dr. Hall. He was admitted fellow of that college June 9, 1707; having previously sustained with honour the very trying examination, which the candidates for that preferment are by the statutes required to undergo.

The first proof he gave of his literary abilities, was *Arithmetica absque Algebra aut Euclide demonstrata*; which, from the preface, he appears to have written before he was twenty years old, though he did not publish it till 1707. It is dedicated to Mr. Palliser, son to the Archbishop of Cashel; and is followed by a Mathematical Miscellany, containing some very ingenious observations and theorems, inscribed to his pupil, Mr. Samuel Molyneaux, a gentleman of whom we shall have occasion to make further mention presently, and whose father was the celebrated friend and correspondent of Mr. Lock.

His *Theory of Vision* was published in 1709, and the *Principles of Human Knowledge* appeared the year after. The airy visions of romances, to the reading of which he was much addicted; disgust at the books of metaphysics then received in
the

the university; and that inquisitive attention to the operations of the mind, which about this time was excited by the writings of Mr. Locke and Father Malebranche; probably gave birth to his disbelief of the existence of matter (1).

In

(1) When the Principles of Human Knowledge were first published, the ingenious Author sent copies of the work to Dr. Clarke and Mr. Whiston. What effect it produced upon the latter, the reader may possibly be entertained with learning from his own words:—Memoirs of Dr. Clarke, page 79—81.

‘ And perhaps it will not be here improper, by way of caution, to take notice of the pernicious consequence such metaphysical subtilties have sometimes had, even against common sense and common experience; as in the cases of those three famous men, Monsr. Leibnitz, Mr. Locke, and Mr. Berkeley.—[The first, in his Pre-established Harmony: the second, in the dispute with Limborch about human Liberty.]—And as to the third-named, Mr. Berkeley, he published, A. D. 1710, at Dublin, this metaphysick notion, that *matter* was not a *real thing*; nay, that the common opinion of its *reality* was groundless, if not ridiculous. He was pleased to send Dr. Clarke and myself, each of us, a book. After we had both perused it, I went to Dr. Clarke, and discoursed with him about it to this effect; that I, being not a metaphysician, was not able to answer Mr. Berkeley’s subtile *premises*,

B 2

‘ though

In 1712, the principles inculcated in Mr. Locke's *Two Treatises of Government*, seem

‘ though I did not at all believe his absurd *conclusion*.
 ‘ I therefore desired that he, who was deep in such
 ‘ subtilties, but did not appear to believe Mr.
 ‘ Berkeley’s conclusions, would answer him: which
 ‘ task he declined. I speak not these things with in-
 ‘ tention to reproach either Mr. Locke or Dean
 ‘ Berkeley.—I own the latter’s great abilities in other
 ‘ parts of learning; and to his noble design of set-
 ‘ tling a College in or near the West Indies, for the
 ‘ instruction of the natives in civil arts, and in the
 ‘ principles of Christianity, I heartily wish all possible
 ‘ success. It is the pretended metaphysick science
 ‘ itself, derived from the sceptical disputes of the
 ‘ Greek philosophers, not those particular great men
 ‘ who have been unhappily imposed on by it, that I
 ‘ complain of. Accordingly, when the famous Mil-
 ‘ ton had a mind to represent the vain reasonings of
 ‘ wicked spirits in Hades, he described it by their
 ‘ endless train of metaphysicks, thus:

‘ *Others apart sat on a hill retir’d, &c.*’

Par. Lost, II. 557—561.

Many years after this, at Mr. Addison’s instance, there was a meeting of Drs. Clarke and Berkeley to discuss this speculative point; and great hopes were entertained from the conference. The parties, however, separated, without being able to come to any agreement. Dr. B. declared himself not well satisfied with the conduct of his antagonist on the occa-
 ‘ sion,

seem to have turned his attention to the doctrine of passive obedience; in support of which, he printed the substance of three Common-places, delivered by him that year in the college chapel; a work which afterwards had nearly done him some injury in his fortune. For, being presented by Mr. Molyneaux above-mentioned to their late majesties, then Prince and Princess of Wales (whose secretary Mr. Molyneaux had been at Hanover), he was by them recommended to lord Galway, for some preferment in the church of Ireland. But lord Galway, having heard of those sermons, represented him as a Jacobite; an impression which Mr. Molyneaux, as soon as he was apprised of it, took care to remove from the minds of their highnesses, by producing the work in question, and shewing that it contained nothing but principles of loyalty to the present happy establishment.

sion, who, though he could not answer, had not candour enough to own himself convinced. But the complaints of disputants against each other, especially on subjects of this abstruse nature, should be heard with suspicion.

This was the first occasion of our Author's being known to Queen Caroline.

In February, 1713, he crossed the water, and published, in London, a further defence of his celebrated system of immaterialism, in *Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous*. Acuteness of parts, and a beautiful imagination, were so conspicuous in his writings, that his reputation was now established; and his company was courted, even where his opinions did not find admision. Two gentlemen of opposite principles concurred in introducing him to the acquaintance of the learned and the great; Sir Richard Steele, and Dr. Swift. He wrote several papers in the Guardian for the former; and, at his house, became acquainted with Mr. Pope, with whom he continued to live in strict friendship during his life. Dean Swift, besides lord Berkeley of Stratton (to whom our Author dedicated his last published dialogues between *Hylas and Philonous*) and other valuable acquaintance, recommended him to the celebrated earl of Peterborough, who, being appointed embassador to the king

king of Sicily, and to the other Italian states, took Mr. Berkeley with him, in quality of chaplain and secretary, in November, 1713.

At Leghorn, his lordship's well-known activity induced him to disencumber himself of his chaplain, and the greatest part of his retinue, whom he left in that town for upwards of three months, while he discharged the business of his embassy in Sicily; as our Author informs his friend Pope, in the conclusion of a complimentary letter addressed to that poet on the Rape of the Lock, dated Leghorn, May 1, 1714. It may not be amiss to record a little incident that befel Mr. Berkeley in this city, with the relation of which he used sometimes to make himself merry among his friends. Basil Kennett, the author of the Roman Antiquities, was then chaplain to the English factory at Leghorn, the only place in Italy where the English service is tolerated by the government; which favour had lately been obtained from the Grand Duke, at the particular instance of Queen Anne. This gentleman requested Mr. Berkeley to preach

for him one Sunday. The day following, as Berkeley was sitting in his chamber, a procession of priests, in surplices, and with all other formalities, entered the room, and, without taking the least notice of the wondering inhabitant, marched quite round it, muttering certain prayers. His fears immediately suggested to him, that this could be no other than a visit from the Inquisition, who had heard of his officiating before heretics, without licence, the day before. As soon as they were gone, he ventured, with much caution, to enquire into the cause of this extraordinary appearance; and was happy to be informed, that this was the season appointed by the Romish calendar for solemnly blessing the houses of all good catholics from rats and other vermin: a piece of intelligence which changed his terror into mirth.

He returned to England, with lord Peterborough, in August, 1714 (2); and his

* *In August, 1714.*] Towards the close of this year he had a fever; in describing the event of which to his friend Swift, Dr. Arbuthnot cannot forbear indulging

his hopes of preferment, through this channel, expiring with the fall of Queen Anne's ministry, he some time after embraced an advantageous offer, made him by Dr. St. George Ashe, bishop of Clogher, and late provost of Trinity College, Dublin, of accompanying his son, Mr. Ashe (who was heir to a very considerable property) in a tour through Europe.

At Paris, having now more leisure than when he first passed through that city, Mr. Berkeley took care to pay his respects to his rival in metaphysical sagacity, the illustrious Pere Malebranche. He found this ingenious father in his cell, cooking, in a small pipkin, a medicine for a disorder with which he was then troubled, an inflammation on the lungs.

dulging a little of that pleasantry on Berkeley's system, with which it has frequently since been treated by such as could not, or would not, be at the pains to acquire a thorough knowledge of it. 'October 19, 1714,—Poor philosopher Berkeley has now *the idea of health*, which was very hard to produce in him; for he had *an idea* of a strange fever on him so strong, that it was very hard to destroy it by introducing a contrary one.'

The

The conversation naturally turned on our Author's system, of which the other had received some knowledge from a translation just published. But the issue of this debate proved tragical to poor Malebranche. — In the heat of disputation, he raised his voice so high, and gave way so freely to the natural impetuosity of a man of parts and a Frenchman, that he brought on himself a violent increase of his disorder, which carried him off a few days after *.

In this second excursion abroad Mr. Berkeley employed upwards of four years; and, besides all those places which are usually visited by travellers, in what is called the grand tour, his curiosity carried him to some that are less frequented. In particular, he travelled over Apulia (from which he wrote an accurate and entertaining account of the *tarantula* to Dr. Freind), Calabria, and the whole island of Sicily. This last country engaged his attention so strongly, that he had, with

* He died October 13, 1715. Dict. hist. portatif d'Advocat.

great industry, compiled very considerable materials for a natural history of the island: but, by an unfortunate accident, these, together with a journal of his transactions there, were lost in the passage to Naples; nor could he be prevailed upon afterwards to recollect and commit those curious particulars again to paper. What an injury the literary world has sustained by this mischance, may in part be collected from the specimen he has left of his talent for lively description, in his letter to Mr. Pope, concerning the island of Inarime (now Ischia, in the bay of Naples), dated Naples, October 22, 1717; and in another, from the same city, to Dr. Arbuthnot, giving an account of an eruption of mount Vesuvius, which he had the good fortune to have more than one opportunity of examining very minutely.

On his way homeward, he drew up, at Lyons, a curious tract *De Motu*, which he sent to the royal academy of sciences at Paris, the subject being proposed by that assembly; and committed it to the press, shortly after his arrival in London, in

1721. But from these abstruse speculations he was drawn away, for a while, by the humanity of his temper, and concern for the public welfare. It is well known what miseries the nation was plunged into, by the fatal South Sea scheme, in 1720. Mr. Berkeley felt for his country, and British neighbours, groaning under these calamitous distresses; and, in that spirit, employed his talents in writing *An Essay towards preventing the Ruin of Great Britain*, printed at London, in 1721.

His travels had now so far improved his natural politeness, and added such charms to his conversation, that he found a ready admission into the best company in London. Among the rest, Mr. Pope introduced him to lord Burlington, who conceived a high esteem for him on account of his great taste and skill in architecture; an art of which his Lordship was an excellent judge and patron, and which Mr. Berkeley had made his particular study while in Italy. By this nobleman he was recommended to the duke of Grafton, lord lieutenant of Ireland; who took him over to Ireland, as one of his chaplains, in

1721,

1721, after he had been absent from his native country more than six years. He had been elected a senior fellow of his college in July, 1717; and now took the degrees of bachelor and doctor in divinity, November 14, 1721.

The year following, his fortune received a considerable increase from a very unexpected event. On his first going to London, in the year 1713, Dean Swift introduced him to the family of Mrs. Esther Vanhomrigh (the celebrated *Vanessa*), and took him often to dine at her house. Some years before her death, this lady removed to Ireland, and fixed her residence at Cell-bridge, a pleasant village in the neighbourhood of Dublin; most probably with a view of often enjoying the company of a man, for whom she seems to have entertained a very singular attachment. But finding herself totally disappointed in this expectation, and discovering the Dean's connection with Stella, she was so enraged at his infidelity, that she altered her intention of making him her heir, and left the whole of her fortune, amounting to near 8000*l.* to be divided

divided equally between two gentlemen, whom she named her executors, Mr. Marshal, a lawyer, afterwards Mr. Justice Marshal, and Dr. Berkeley, S. F. T. C. D. The Doctor received the news of this bequest from Mr. Marshal with great surprise; as he had never once seen the lady, who had honoured him with such a proof of her esteem, from the time of his return to Ireland to her death.

In the discharge, however, of his trust as executor, he had an opportunity of shewing he by no means adopted the sentiments of his benefactress, with regard to Swift. Several letters, that had passed between Cadenus and Vanessa, falling into his hands, he committed them immediately to the flames; not because there was any thing criminal in them; for he frequently assured Dr. Delany (3) and others of the contrary; but he observed a warmth in the lady's stile, which delicacy required him to conceal from the public. Dr. Berkeley, it seems, was not apprised of a strong proof this exasperated female

(3) See Delany's Observations on Orrery's Remarks.

had just given, how little regard she herself retained for the virtue of delicacy. On her death-bed, she delivered to Mr. Marshal a copy, in her own hand-writing, of the entire correspondence between herself and the Dean; with a strict injunction to publish it immediately after her decease. What prevented the execution of this request cannot now be affirmed with certainty. Possibly the executor did not care to draw on himself the lash of that pen, from which a particular friend of his * had lately smarted so severely. Some years after the Dean's death, Mr. Marshal had serious thoughts of fulfilling the intention of Vanessa. With this view he shewed the letters to several persons of his acquaintance, without any injunction of secrecy; which may account for the extracts of them that have lately got into print. The affair however was protracted, till the death of Judge Marshal put a stop to it entirely. The letters are still in being; and whenever curiosity or avarice shall draw them into public light, it is

* Mr. Bettefworth.

probable they will be found, after all, to be as trifling and as innocent as those which our Author saw and suppressed.

May 18, 1724, Dr. Berkeley resigned his fellowship; being promoted, by his patron, the duke of Grafton, to the deanry of Derry, worth 1100l. per annum. In the interval between this removal and his return from abroad, his mind had been employed in conceiving that benevolent project, which alone entitles him to as much honour as all his learned labours have procured him, the *Scheme for converting the savage Americans to Christianity, by a College to be erected in the Summer Islands, otherwise called the Isles of Bermuda*. He published a proposal (4) for this

(4) *A Proposal for converting the savage Americans.*] With this proposal he carried a letter of recommendation from Dean Swift to lord Carteret, lieutenant of Ireland, which deserves a place here, both because it contains a number of particulars of our Author's life, and is besides a proof, as well of the friendly temper of the writer, as of his politeness and address.

‘ September 3, 1724.—There is a gentleman of
 ‘ this kingdom just gone for England: it is Dr.
 ‘ George Berkeley, Dean of Derry, the best prefer-
 ‘ ment among us, being worth about 1100l. a year.

this purpose, at London, in 1725, and offered to resign his own opulent preferment;
and

‘ He takes the Bath in his way to London, and will
‘ of course attend your Excellency, and be presented,
‘ I suppose, by his friend my lord Burlington; and,
‘ because I believe you will chuse out some very idle
‘ minutes to read this letter, perhaps you may not be
‘ ill entertained with some account of the man and
‘ his errand. He was a fellow in the university
‘ here; and, going to England very young, about
‘ thirteen years ago, he became the founder of a sect
‘ there, called the Immaterialists, by the force of a
‘ very curious book on that subject. Dr. Smalridge,
‘ and many other eminent persons, were his profe-
‘ lytes. I sent him secretary and chaplain to Sicily;
‘ with my lord Peterborough; and, upon his Lord-
‘ ship’s return, Dr. Berkeley spent above seven years
‘ in travelling over most parts of Europe, but chiefly
‘ through every corner of Italy, Sicily, and other
‘ islands. When he came back to England, he found
‘ so many friends, that he was effectually recom-
‘ mended to the duke of Grafton, by whom he was
‘ lately made Dean of Derry. Your Excellency will
‘ be frightened when I tell you, all this is but an intro-
‘ duction; for I am now to mention his errand. He
‘ is an absolute philosopher, with regard to money,
‘ titles, and power; and, for three years past, hath
‘ been struck with a notion of founding an university
‘ at Bermuda, by a charter from the crown. He hath
‘ seduced several of the hopefulest young clergymen,
‘ and others here, many of them well provided for,

and to dedicate the remainder of his life to the instructing the youth in America, on the moderate subsistence of 100l. yearly. Such was the force of this disinterested example, supported by the eloquence of an enthusiast for the good of mankind, that three junior fellows of Trinity College, Dublin, the Reverend William

‘ and all of them in the fairest way of preferment ;
‘ but in England his conquests are greater, and I
‘ doubt will spread very far this winter. He shewed
‘ me a little tract, which he designs to publish ; and
‘ there your Excellency will see his whole scheme of
‘ a life academico-philosophical (I shall make you re-
‘ member what you were) of a college founded for
‘ Indian scholars and missionaries, where he most ex-
‘ orbitantly proposeth a whole hundred pounds a year
‘ for himself, forty pounds for a fellow, and ten for
‘ a student. His heart will break if his deanry be
‘ not taken from him, and left to your Excellency’s
‘ disposal: I discourage him by the coldness of courts
‘ and ministers, who will interpret all this as impos-
‘ sible, and a vision ; but nothing will do. And
‘ therefore I do humbly intreat your Excellency,
‘ either to use such persuasions as will keep one of the
‘ first men in this kingdom, for learning and virtue,
‘ quiet at home ; or assist him, by your credit, to com-
‘ pass his romantic design, which, however, is very
‘ noble and generous, and directly proper for a great
‘ person, of your excellent education, to encourage.’

Thompson,

Thompson, Jonathan Rogers, and James King, masters of arts, consented to take their fortunes with the Author of the project, and to exchange for a settlement in the Atlantic ocean, at 40*l.* per annum, all their prospects at home; and that too at a time, when a fellowship of Dublin College was supposed to place the possessor in a very fair point of view, for attracting the notice of his superiors, both in the church and state.

Dr. Berkeley, however, was not so ill acquainted with the world, as to rest the success of his application to the ministry entirely on the hope his scheme afforded of promoting national honour, and the cause of Christianity: his arguments were drawn from the more alluring topic of present advantage to the government. Having, with much industry, acquired an accurate knowledge of the value of certain lands (5) in the island of St. Christopher's,

(5) *Certain lands in St. Christopher's.*] 'The island of St. Christopher's,' saith Anderson, History of Commerce, Vol. II. 'having been settled on the very same day and year by both England and France,

pher's, yielded by France to Great Britain at the treaty of Utrecht, which were then to be sold for the public use, he undertook to raise from them a much greater sum than was expected; and proposed that a part of the purchase money should be applied to the erecting of his college. He found means, by the assistance of a Venetian of distinction, the Abbé Gualteri (or Altieri) with whom he had formed an acquaintance in Italy, to

‘ A. D. 1625, was divided equally between the two
‘ nations. The English were twice driven out from
‘ thence by the French, and as often re-possest
‘ themselves of it. But at length, in the year 1702,
‘ general Coddington, governor of the Leeward
‘ Islands, upon advice received that war was declared
‘ by England against France, attacked the French
‘ part of the island, and mastered it with very little
‘ trouble. Ever since which time, that fine island
‘ has been solely possessed by Great Britain, having
‘ been formally conceded to us by the treaty of
‘ Utrecht.’ The lands, therefore, which had be-
‘ longed to the French planters, by this cession became
‘ the property of his Britannic Majesty. The first pro-
‘ posals for purchasing these lands were made to the
‘ Lords of Trade, in 1717 :—see Journal of the British
‘ Commons. After which, the affair seems to have
‘ been forgotten, till it was mentioned by Berkeley to
‘ Sir Robert Walpole, in 1726.

carry

carry this proposal directly to King George I. (6); who laid his commands on Sir Robert Walpole, to introduce and conduct it through the House of Commons. His Majesty was further pleased to grant a charter for erecting a college, by the name of St. Paul's College, in Bermuda, to consist of a president and nine fellows, who were obliged to maintain and educate Indian scholars, at the rate of 10*l.* per annum for each. The first president, Dr. George Berkeley, and first three fellows named in the charter (being the gentlemen above-mentioned) were licensed to hold their preferments in these kingdoms, till the expiration of one year and a half after their arrival in Bermuda. The Commons, May 11, 1726, voted, "That an
 " humble address be presented to his

(6) *To king George I.*] It was the custom of this prince to unbend his mind, in the evening, by collecting together a company of philosophical foreigners, who discoursed in an easy and familiar manner with each other, entirely unrestrained by the presence of his Majesty, who generally walked about, or sat in a retired part of the chamber. One of this select company was Altieri; and this gave him an opportunity of laying his friend's proposal before the King.

“ Majesty, that, out of the lands in St.
 “ Christopher’s, yielded by France to
 “ Great Britain by the treaty of Utrecht,
 “ his Majesty would be graciously pleased
 “ to make such grant for the use of the
 “ president and fellows of the College of
 “ St. Paul, in Bermuda, as his Majesty
 “ shall think proper.” The sum of
 20,000*l.* was accordingly promised by the
 minister; and several private subscriptions
 were immediately raised for promoting
 “ so pious an undertaking,” as it is styled
 in the king’s answer (7) to this address.
 Such a prospect of success, in the favourite
 object of his heart, drew from our Author
 a beautiful copy of verses (8); in which
 another age perhaps will acknowledge the
 old conjunction of the prophetic cha-
 racter with that of the poet, to have again
 taken place.

In the mean time, the Dean entered
 into a marriage, August 1, 1728, with
 Anne, the eldest daughter of the right

(7) Commons Journal, May 16, 1726.

(8) See Verses (Vol. II.) subjoined to Proposal
 for planting churches, &c.

honourable

honourable John Forster, speaker of the Irish House of Commons. This engagement, however, was so far from being any obstruction to his grand undertaking, that he actually set sail, in the execution of it, for Rhode Island, about the middle of September following. He carried with him his lady, a Miss Handcock, Mr. Smilert an ingenious painter, two gentlemen of fortune, Mess. James and Dalton, a pretty large sum of money of his own property, and a collection of books for the use of his intended library. He directed his course to Rhode Island, which lay nearest to Bermuda, with a view of purchasing lands on the adjoining continent, as estates for the support of his college; having a positive promise from those in power, that the parliamentary grant should be paid him, as soon as ever such lands should be pitched upon and agreed for. The Dean took up his residence at Newport in Rhode Island, where his presence was a great relief to a clergyman of the church of England, established in those parts; as he preached every Sunday, and was indefatigable in pastoral labours during the

whole time of his stay there, which was near two years.

When estates had been agreed for, it was fully expected that the public money would, according to the grant, be immediately paid, as the purchase of them. But the minister had never heartily embraced the project; and parliamentary influence had, by this time, interposed, in order to divert the grant into another channel. The sale of the lands in St. Christopher's, it was found, would produce 90,000*l*. Of this sum 80,000*l*. (9) was destined to pay the marriage portion of the Princess Royal, on her nuptials with the Prince of Orange: the remainder, general Oglethorp (10) had interest enough in parliament to obtain, for the purpose of carrying over and settling foreign and other protestants in his new colony of Georgia in America. The project indeed of the trustees, for establishing this colony, appears to have been

(9) Commons Journal, May 10, 1733.

(10) Ibid. The general paid Dean B. the compliment of asking his consent to this application of the money, before he moved for it in parliament.

equally

equally humane and disinterested : but it is much to be lamented, that it should interfere with another, of more extensive and lasting utility ; which, if it had taken effect, by the education of the youth of New England and other colonies, we may venture, with great appearance of reason, to affirm, would have planted such principles of religion and loyalty among them, as might have gone a good way towards preventing the present unhappy troubles in that part of the world. But to proceed :

After having received various excuses, bishop Gibson, at that time bishop of London (in whose diocese all the West Indies are included) applying to Sir Robert Walpole, then at the head of the treasury, was favoured at length with the following very honest answer : If you put
 “ this question to me,” says Sir Robert,
 “ as a minister, I must and can assure
 “ you, that the money shall most un-
 “ doubtedly be paid, as soon as suits with
 “ public convenience : but if you ask me,
 “ as a friend, whether Dean Berkeley
 “ should continue in America, expecting
 “ the payment of 20,000*l*. I advise him,
 “ by

“ by all means, to return home to Europe, and to give up his present expectations.” The Dean being informed of this conference by his good friend the bishop, and thereby fully convinced that the bad policy of one great man had rendered abortive a scheme, whereon he had expended much of his private fortune, and more than seven years of the prime of his life, returned to Europe. Before he left Rhode Island, he distributed what books he had brought with him among the clergy of that province; and, immediately after his arrival in London, he returned all the private subscriptions that had been advanced for the support of his undertaking.

In February, 1732, he preached, before the Society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts, a Sermon, since printed at their desire; wherein, from his own knowledge of the state of religion in America, he offers many useful hints towards promoting the noble purposes for which that society was founded.

The same year, he gave a more conspicuous proof that he had not mispent the
time

time he had been confined on the other side of the Atlantic, by producing to the world *The Minute Philosopher*; a masterly performance, wherein he pursues the Freethinker through the various characters of atheist, libertine, enthusiast, scorner, critic, metaphysician, fatalist, and sceptic; and very happily employs against him several new weapons, drawn from the store-house of his own ingenious system of philosophy. It is written in a series of dialogues, on the model of Plato; a philosopher whom he studied particularly, and whose manner he is thought to have copied with more success than any other that ever attempted to imitate him.

We have already related by what means, and upon what occasion, Dr. Berkeley had first the honour of being known to Queen Caroline. This princess delighted much in attending to philosophical conversations between learned and ingenious men; for which purpose she had, when princess of Wales, appointed a particular day in the week, when the most eminent for literary abilities, at that time in England, were invited to attend her Royal Highness

ness in the evening: a practice which she continued after her accession to the throne. Of this company were Doctors Clarke, Hoadley, Berkeley, and Sherlock. Clarke and Berkeley were generally considered as principals in the debates that arose upon those occasions; and Hoadley adhered to the former, as Sherlock did to the latter. Hoadley was no friend to our Author: he affected to consider his philosophy, and his Bermuda project, as the reveries of a visionary. Sherlock (who was afterwards bishop of London), on the other hand, warmly espoused his cause; and particularly, when the Minute Philosopher came out, he carried a copy of it to the Queen, and left it to her Majesty to determine, whether such a work could be the production of a disordered understanding.

After Dean Berkeley's return from Rhode Island, the Queen often commanded his attendance, to discourse with him on what he had observed worthy of notice in America. His agreeable and instructive conversation engaged that discerning princess so much in his favour, that the rich deanry of Down in Ireland falling vacant,

vacant, he was, at her desire, named to it; and the King's letter actually came over for his appointment. But his friend lord Burlington having neglected to notify the royal intentions, in proper time, to the duke of Dorset, then lord lieutenant of Ireland, his Excellency was so offended at this disposal of the richest deanry in Ireland, without his concurrence, that it was thought proper not to press the matter any further. Her Majesty, upon this, declared, that since they would not suffer Dr. Berkeley to be a *dean* in Ireland, he should be a *bishop*: and accordingly, in 1734, the bishopric of Cloyne becoming vacant, he was, by letters patent, dated March 17, promoted to that see, and was consecrated at St. Paul's church in Dublin, on the 19th of May following, by Theophilus archbishop of Cashel, assisted by the bishops of Raphoe and Killaloe.

His Lordship repaired immediately to his mansion-house at Cloyne, where he constantly resided (except one winter that he attended the business of parliament in Dublin) and applied himself with vigour to the faithful discharge of all episcopal duties.

duties. He revived in his diocese the useful office of rural dean, which had gone into disuse; visited frequently parochially; and confirmed in the several parts of his see.

He continued his studies, however, with unabated attention; and, about this time, engaged in a controversy with the mathematicians of Great Britain and Ireland, which made a good deal of noise in the literary world. The occasion was this: Mr. Addison had given the Bishop an account of their common friend Dr. Garth's behaviour in his last illness, which was equally unpleasing to both those excellent advocates for revealed religion. For when Mr. Addison went to see the Doctor, and began to discourse with him seriously about preparing for his approaching dissolution, the other made answer, " Surely, Addison, I have
" good reason not to believe those trifles,
" since my friend Dr. Halley, who has
" dealt so much in demonstration, has
" assured me, that the doctrines of
" Christianity are incomprehensible, and
" the religion itself an imposture." The
Bishop

Bishop therefore took arms against this redoubtable dealer in demonstration; and addressed *The Analyst* to him, with a view of shewing, that mysteries in faith were unjustly objected to by mathematicians, who admitted much greater mysteries, and even falsehoods, in science; of which he endeavoured to prove that the doctrine of fluxions furnished an eminent example. Such an attack upon what had hitherto been looked upon as impregnable, produced a number of warm answers, to which the Bishop replied once or twice.

From this controversy he turned his thoughts to subjects of more apparent utility; and his *Queries* proposed for the good of Ireland, first printed in 1735; his *Discourse addressed to Magistrates* (11), which came out the year following; and his *Maxims concerning Patriotism*, published in 1750, are equally monuments of

(11) Occasioned by an impious society, called *Blasters*, which this pamphlet put a stop to. He expressed his sentiments, on the same occasion, in the House of Lords, the only time he ever spoke there. The speech was received with much applause.

his

his knowledge of mankind, and of his zeal for the service of true religion and his country.

In 1745, during the Scots rebellion, his Lordship addressed *A Letter to the Roman Catholics* of his diocese; and, in 1749, another to the clergy of that persuasion in Ireland, under the title of *A word to the Wise*, written with so much candour and moderation, as well as good sense, that those gentlemen, highly to their own honour, in the Dublin Journal of November 18, 1749, thought fit to return “ their sincere and hearty thanks
“ to the worthy Author; assuring him,
“ that they are determined to comply
“ with every particular recommended
“ in his address, to the utmost of their
“ power.” They add, that “ in every
“ page it contains a proof of the Author’s
“ extensive charity; his views are only
“ towards the public good; the means
“ he prescribeth are easily complied
“ with; and his manner of treating
“ persons, in their circumstances, so
“ very singular, that they plainly shew
“ the good man, the polite gentleman,
and

“and the true patriot.” A character this, which was so entirely his Lordship’s due, that, in the year 1745, that excellent judge of merit, and real friend to Ireland, the late lord Chesterfield, as soon as he was advanced to the government, of his own motion, wrote to inform him, that the see of Clogher, then vacant, the value of which was double that of Cloyne, was at his service. This offer, our Bishop, with many expressions of thankfulness, declined. He had enough, already, to satisfy all his wishes; and, agreeably to the natural warmth of his temper, he had conceived so high an idea of the beauties of Cloyne, that Mr. Pope had once almost determined to make a visit to Ireland, on purpose to see a place, which his friend had painted out to him with all the brilliancy of colouring; and which yet, to common eyes, presents nothing that is very worthy of attention.

The close of a life, thus devoted to the good of mankind, was answerable to the beginning of it; the Bishop’s last years being employed in enquiring into the virtues of a medicine, whereof he had

D

himself

himself experienced the good effects, in the relief of a nervous cholic, brought on him by his sedentary course of living, and grown to that height, that, in his own words, “ it rendered life a burden “ to him ; the more so, as his pains “ were exasperated by exercise.” This medicine was no other than the celebrated Tar-water ; his thoughts upon which subject he first communicated to the world, in the year 1744, in a treatise entitled, *Siris, a Chain of Philosophical Reflections and Enquiries concerning the Virtues of Tar-water.* The Author has been heard to declare, that this work cost him more time and pains than any other he had ever been engaged in ; a circumstance that will not appear surprising to such as shall give themselves the trouble of examining into the extent of erudition that is there displayed. It is indeed a chain, which, like that of the Poet, reaches from earth to heaven, conducting the reader, by an almost imperceptible gradation, from the phenomena of tar-water, through the depths of the ancient philosophy, to the sublimest

simplest mystery of the Christian religion. It underwent a second impression in 1747, and was followed by *Farther Thoughts on Tar-water*, published in 1752. This was his last performance for the press; and he survived it but a short time.

In July, 1752, he removed, though in a bad state of health (12), with his lady and family, to Oxford, in order to superintend the education of one (13) of his sons,

(12) He was carried, from his landing on the English shore, in a horse-litter, to Oxford:

(13) This gentleman, George Berkeley, second son of the Bishop, proceeded A. M. January 26, 1759, took holy orders, and, in August following, was presented to the vicarage of Bray in Berkshire. The late archbishop Secker, who had a high respect for the father's character, honoured the son with his patronage and friendship, both at the university and afterwards. By his favour, Dr. Berkeley is now possessed of a canonry of Canterbury, the chancellorship of the collegiate church of Brecknock, and (by exchange for the vicarage of Bray) of the vicarage of Cookham, Berks: to which was added lately, by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, the vicarage of East Peckham, Kent. He took the degree of LL. D. February 12, 1768. In the year 1760, he

sons, then newly admitted a student at Christ-church. He had taken a fixed resolution to spend the remainder of his days in this city, with a view of indulging the passion for a learned retirement, which had ever strongly possessed his mind, and was one of the motives that led him to form his Bermuda project. But, as no body could be more sensible than his Lordship of the impropriety of a bishop's non-residence, he previously endeavoured to exchange his high preferment for some canonry or headship at Oxford. Failing of success in this, he actually wrote over to the secretary of state, to request that he might have permission to resign his bishopric, worth, at that time, at least 1400 l. per annum. So uncommon a petition excited his majesty's curiosity to enquire who was the extraordinary man that preferred it. Being told that it was his old acquaintance, Dr. Berkeley, he declared

married the daughter of the Reverend Mr. Frinsham, rector of White-Waltham, Berks; and by this lady hath had issue two sons.

that

that he should die a bishop, in spite of himself; but gave him full liberty to reside where he pleased.

The Bishop's last act, before he left Cloyne, was to sign a lease of the demesne lands in that neighbourhood, to be renewed yearly, at the rent of 200 l. which sum he directed to be distributed every year, until his return, among poor housekeepers of Cloyne, Youghal, and Aghadda.

At Oxford he lived highly respected by the learned members of that great university, till the hand of Providence unexpectedly deprived them of the pleasure and advantage derived from his residence among them. On Sunday evening, January 14, 1753, as he was sitting in the midst of his family, listening to a sermon of Dr. Sherlock's which his lady was reading to him, he was seized with what the physicians termed a palsy in the heart, and instantly expired. The accident was so sudden, that his body was quite cold, and his joints stiff, before it was discovered, as the Bishop lay on a couch, and seemed to be asleep; till his daughter,

on presenting him with a dish of tea, first perceived his insensibility. His remains were interred at Christ-church, Oxford, where there is an elegant marble monument erected to his memory, by his lady, who is still living; and had, during her marriage, brought him three sons and one daughter.

As to his person, he was a handsome man, with a countenance full of meaning and benignity, remarkable for great strength of limbs, and, till his sedentary life impaired it, of a very robust constitution. He was, however, often troubled with the hypochondria; and, latterly, with that nervous cholic mentioned above.

At Cloyne, he constantly rose between three and four o'clock in the morning, and summoned his family to a lesson on the base-viol, from an Italian master he kept in the house, for the instruction of his children; though the Bishop himself had no ear for music. He spent the rest of the morning, and often a great part of the day, in study: his favourite author, from whom many of his notions were borrowed, was Plato. He had a large
and

and valuable collection of books and pictures, which are now the property of his son, the reverend George Berkeley, LL. D.

The excellence of his moral character, if it were not so conspicuous in his writings, might be learned from the blessings with which his memory is followed by the numerous poor (14) of his neighbourhood, as well as from the testimony of his yet surviving acquaintance, who cannot, to this day, speak of him, without a degree of enthusiasm, that removes the air of hyperbole from the well-known line of his friend Mr. Pope :

To Berkeley every virtue under heaven.

(14) *By the poor of his neighbourhood.*] One instance of his attention to his poor neighbours, may deserve relating. Cloyne, though it gives name to the see, is in fact no better than a village : it is not reasonable, therefore, to expect much industry or ingenuity in the inhabitants. Yet whatever article of cloathing they could possibly manufacture there, the Bishop would have from no other place ; and chose to wear ill cloaths, and worse wigs, rather than suffer the poor of the town to remain unemployed.

The inscription on his monument was drawn up by Dr. Markham, the present archbishop of York, then head master of Westminster school; and is in these terms:

Gravissimo præfuli,
 Georgio, Episcopo Clonenfi :
 Viro,
 Seu ingenii et eruditionis laudem,
 Seu probitatis et beneficentiæ spectemus,
 Inter primos omnium ætatum numerando.
 Si Christianus fueris,
 Si amans patriæ,
 Utroque nomine gloriari potes
 BERKLEIUM vixisse.
 Obiit annum agens septuagesimum
 tertium * :
 Natus Anno Christi M.DC.LXXIX.
 Anna Conjux
 L. M. P.

* Mistake.

LETTERS,

LETTERS, &c.

THOMAS PRIOR, Esq. the gentleman to whom the Public is indebted for preserving the greatest part of the following correspondence, was born about the year 1679, at Rathdowney, in the Queen's County, the estate of his family since the middle of that century. He was educated in the university of Dublin, where he took the degree of A. M. and was fellow student with our Author. Being of a weak habit of body, he declined entering into any of the learned professions, though otherwise well qualified to have appeared with advantage in them: the great object of his thoughts and studies was, to promote the real happiness of his country. In 1729, he published his well-known tract, a List of the Absentees of Ireland; in the close of which, he strongly recommended the use of linen scarfs at funerals. The hint was adopted by the executors of Mr. Conolly, speaker of the House of Commons, at his public funeral, in the month of October of this year; and that mode of burying has been effectually established ever since, to the great emolument of our

our most capital branch of trade. He published also several tracts relative to our coin, linen manufacture, &c. But the glory of his life, and object of his unremitting labours, was the founding and promoting of that most useful institution, the Dublin Society; of which, for a series of years, he discharged the duty of Secretary. Every good and great man, his cotemporary, honoured him with his esteem and friendship, particularly Philip, earl of Chesterfield; of whose interest, however, his moderation led him to make no other use, than to procure, by his Lordship's recommendation, from the late King, a charter of incorporation for his darling child, the Dublin Society, with a grant of 500 l. per annum for its better support. Having spent his life in the practice of every virtue that distinguishes the Patriot and the true Christian, he died, of a gradual decline, in Dublin, October 21, 1751, and was interred in the church of Rathdowney. Over his remains is a neat monument of Kilkenny marble, with an English epitaph. His friends have erected a more magnificent memorial of this useful member

member of society, in the nave of Christchurch, Dublin; the inscription on which came from the elegant pen of our Bishop, and will appear below. See Views and Descriptions of Dublin, by Pool and Cash, p. 102.

LETTER

L E T T E R I.

To Mr. THOMAS PRIOR, Pall-mall Coffee-house, London.

Paris, Nov. 25, 1713, N. S.

Dear Tom,

FROM London to Calais I came in the company of a Flamand, a Spaniard, a Frenchman, and three English servants of my lord. The three gentlemen being of those different nations, obliged me to speak the French language (which is now familiar) and gave me the opportunity of seeing much of the world in a little compass. After a very remarkable escape from rocks and banks of sand, and darkness and storm, and the hazards that attend rash and ignorant seamen, we arrived at Calais in a vessel, which, returning the next day, was cast away in the harbour, in open day-light, as I think I already told you. From Calais Col. du Hamel left it to my choice, either to go with him by post to Paris, or come after

after in the stage-coach. I chose the latter, and, on Nov. 1, O. S. embarked in the stage-coach with a company that were all perfect strangers to me. There were two Scotch, and one English gentleman. One of the former happened to be the author of the Voyage to St. Kilda, and the Account of the Western Isles. We were good company on the road, and that day-sev'night came to Paris. I have been since taken up in viewing churches, convents, palaces, colleges, &c. which are very numerous and magnificent in this town. The splendor and riches of these things surpass belief: but it were endless to descend to particulars. I was present at a disputation in the Sorbonne, which indeed had much of the French fire in it. I saw the Irish and the English colleges. In the latter I saw, enclosed in a coffin, the body of the late king James. Bits of the coffin, and of the cloth that hangs the room, have been cut away for relics; he being esteemed a great saint by the people. The day after I came to town, I dined at the Ambassador of Sicily's, and this day with Mr. Prior. I

snatched an opportunity to mention you to him, and do your character justice. To-morrow I intend to visit Father Malbranch, and discourse him on certain points. I have some reasons to decline speaking of the country or villages that I saw as I came along.

My lord is just now arrived, and tells me he has an opportunity of sending my letters to my friends to-morrow morning, which occasions my writing this. My humble service to Sir John Rawdon, Mrs. Rawdon, Mrs. Kempsey, and all other friends. My lord thinks he shall stay a fortnight here. I am, dear Tom,

Your affectionate humble servant,

G. BERKELEY.

L E T T E R II.

Turin, Jan. 6, 1714, N. S.

Dear Tom,

AT Lyons, where I was about eight days, it was left to my choice whether I would go from thence to Toulon, and

and there embark for Genoa ; or else pass through Savoy, cross the Alps, and so through Italy. I chose the latter route, though I was obliged to ride post, in company of Col. du Hamel and Mr. Oglethorpe, adjutant general of the queen's forces, who were sent with a letter from my lord to the king's mother at Turin. The first day, we rode from Lyons to Chambery, the capital of Savoy, which is reckoned sixty miles. The Lionnois and Dauphiné were very well ; but Savoy was a perpetual chain of rocks and mountains, almost impassable for ice and snow. And yet I rode post through it, and came off with only four falls, from which I received no other damage than the breaking my sword, my watch, and my snuff-box. On new-year's day, we passed mount Cenis, one of the most difficult and formidable parts of the Alps, which is ever past over by mortal men. We were carried in open chairs, by men used to scale these rocks and precipices, which, at this season, are more slippery and dangerous than at other times ; and, at the best, are high, craggy, and steep enough

to cause the heart of the most valiant man to melt within him. My life often depended on a single step. No one will think that I exaggerate, who considers what it is to pass the Alps on new year's day. But I shall leave particulars to be recited by the fire-side.

We have been now five days here, and in two or three more design to set forward towards Genoa, where we are to join my lord, who embarked at Toulon. I am now hardened against wind and weather, earth and sea, frost and snow; can gallop all day long, and sleep but three or four hours at night.

The court here is polite and splendid, the city beautiful, the churches and colleges magnificent, but not much learning stirring among them. However all orders of people, clergy and laity, are wonderfully civil; and every where a man finds his account in being an Englishman; that character alone being sufficient to gain respect.

My service to all friends; particularly to Sir John and Mrs. Rawdon, and Mrs.

E

Kempsey.

Kempfy. It is my advice, that they do not pass the Alps in their way to Sicily. I am, dear Tom,

Your, &c.

G. B.

L E T T E R III.

Leghorn, Feb. 26, 1714. N. S.

Dear Tom,

MRS. Rawdon is too thin, and Sir John too fat, to agree with the English climate. I advise them to make haste, and transport themselves into this warm, clear air. Your best way is to come through France; but make no long stay there, for the air is too cold, and there are instances enough of poverty and distress to spoil the mirth of any one who feels the sufferings of his fellow creatures. I would prescribe you two or three operas at Paris, and as many days amusement at Versailles. My next recipe shall be to ride post from Paris to Toulon, and there to embark for Genoa; for I would by no means have
you

you shaken to pieces, as I was, riding post over the rocks of Savoy, or put out of humour by the most horrible precipices of mount Cenis, that part of the Alps which divides Piedmont from Savoy. I shall not anticipate your pleasure by any description of Italy or France. Only, with regard to the latter, I cannot help observing, that the Jacobites have little to hope, and others little to fear, from that reduced nation. The king indeed looks as though he wanted neither meat nor drink; and his palaces are in good repair: but throughout the land there is a different face of things.

I staid about a month at Paris, eight days at Lyons, eleven at Turin, three weeks at Genoa, and am now here about a fortnight, with my lord's secretary (an Italian) and some others of his retinue; my lord having gone aboard a Maltese vessel from hence to Sicily, with a couple of servants. He designs to stay there incognito a few days, and then return hither; having put off his public entry till the yacht with his equipage arrives.

I have writ to you several times be-

fore by post. In answer to all my letters, I desire you to send me one great one, close writ, and filled on all sides, containing a particular account of all transactions in London and Dublin. Inclose it in a cover to my lord Ambassador, and that again in another cover to Mr. Hare, at my lord Bolingbroke's office. If you have a mind to travel only in the map, here is the list of all the places where I lodged since my leaving England, in their natural order: Calais, Boulogne, Montreuil, Abbeville, Pois, Beauvais, Paris, Moret, Villeneuve-le-roi, Vermanton, Saulieu, Chany, Macon, Lions, Chambery, St. Jean de Maurienne, Lanebourg, Susa, Turin, Alexandria, Campo-Marone, Genoa, Sestri di Levante, Lerici, Leghorn.

My humble service to Sir John, Mrs. Rawdon, and Mrs. Kempsey, Mr. Digby, Mr. French, &c.—I am, dear Tom,

Your affectionate humble servant,

G. BERKELEY.

LETTER

L E T T E R IV.

To Mr. P O P E.

Leghorn, May 1, 1714.

AS I take ingratitude to be a greater crime than impertinence, I chuse rather to run the risk of being thought guilty of the latter, than not to return you my thanks for a very agreeable entertainment you just now gave me. I have accidentally met with your Rape of the Lock here, having never seen it before. Style, painting, judgment, spirit, I had already admired in other of your writings; but in this I am charmed with the magic of your invention, with all those images, allusions, and inexplicable beauties, which you raise so surprizingly, and at the same time so naturally, out of a trifle. And yet I cannot say that I was more pleased with the reading of it than I am with the pretext it gives me to renew in your thoughts the remembrance of one

who values no happiness beyond the friendship of men of wit, learning, and good-nature.

I remember to have heard you mention some half-formed design of coming to Italy. What might we not expect from a muse that sings so well in the bleak climate of England, if she felt the same warm sun, and breathed the same air, with Virgil and Horace !

There are here an incredible number of poets that have all the inclination, but want the genius, or perhaps the art, of the ancients. Some among them, who understand English, begin to relish our authors ; and I am informed, that at Florence they have translated Milton into Italian verse. If one who knows so well how to write like the old Latin poets came among them, it would probably be a means to retrieve them from their cold, trivial conceits, to an imitation of their predecessors.

As merchants, antiquaries, men of pleasure, &c. have all different views in travelling, I know not whether it might not be worth a poet's while to travel, in order
to

to store his mind with strong images of nature.

Green fields and groves, flowery meadows and purling streams, are no where in such perfection as in England: but if you would know lightsome days, warm suns, and blue skies, you must come to Italy; and to enable a man to describe rocks and precipices, it is absolutely necessary that he pass the Alps.

You will easily perceive, that it is self-interest makes me so fond of giving advice to one who has no need of it. If you came into these parts, I should fly to see you. I am here (by the favour of my good friend the Dean of St. Patrick's) in quality of chaplain to the earl of Peterborough, who, about three months since, left the greatest part of his family in this town. God knows how long we shall stay here. — I am

Your, &c.

L E T T E R V.

Naples, Oct. 22, 1717. N. S.

I Have long had it in my thoughts to trouble you with a letter, but was discouraged for want of something that I could think worth sending fifteen hundred miles. Italy is such an exhausted subject, that I dare say you would easily forgive my saying nothing of it; and the imagination of a poet is a thing so nice and delicate, that it is no easy matter to find out images capable of giving pleasure to one of the few who, in any age, have come up to that character. I am, nevertheless, lately returned from an island, where I passed three or four months; which, were it set out in its true colours, might, methinks, amuse you agreeably enough for a minute or two. The island Inarime is an epitome of the whole earth, containing, within the compass of eighteen miles, a wonderful variety of hills, vales, ragged rocks, fruitful plains, and barren mountains, all thrown together in
a most

a most romantic confusion. The air is, in the hottest season, constantly refreshed by cool breezes from the sea. The vales produce excellent wheat and Indian corn; but are mostly covered with vineyards, intermixed with fruit-trees. Besides the common kinds, as cherries, apricots, peaches, &c. they produce oranges, limes, almonds, pomegranates, figs, water-melons, and many other fruits unknown to our climates, which lie every where open to the passenger. The hills are the greater part covered to the top with vines, some with chesnut-groves, and others with thickets of myrtle and lentiscus. The fields in the northern side are divided by hedge-rows of myrtle. Several fountains and rivulets add to the beauty of this landscape, which is likewise set off by the variety of some barren spots and naked rocks. But that which crowns the scene, is a large mountain, rising out of the middle of the island (once a terrible volcano, by the ancients called Mons Epomeus): its lower parts are adorned with vines, and other fruits; the middle affords pasture to flocks of goats and sheep; and the top is

is a sandy pointed rock, from which you have the finest prospect in the world; surveying at one view, besides several pleasant islands lying at your feet, a tract of Italy, about three hundred miles in length, from the promontory of Antium to the cape of Palinurus; the greater part of which hath been sung by Homer and Virgil, as making a considerable part of the travels and adventures of their two heroes. The islands Caprea, Prochyta, and Parthenope, together with Cajeta, Cumæ, Monte Miseno, the habitations of Circe, the Syrens, and the Læstrigones, the bay of Naples, the promontory of Minerva, and the whole Campagna Felice, make but a part of this noble landscape; which would demand an imagination as warm, and numbers as flowing as your own, to describe it. The inhabitants of this delicious isle, as they are without riches and honours, so they are without the vices and follies that attend them; and, were they but as much strangers to revenge as they are to avarice and ambition, they might in fact answer the poetical notions of the golden age. But they
have

have got, as an alloy to their happiness, an ill habit of murdering one another on slight offences. We had an instance of this the second night after our arrival, a youth of eighteen being shot dead by our door; and yet, by the sole secret of minding our own business, we found a means of living securely among these dangerous people.

Would you know how we pass the time at Naples? Our chief entertainment is the devotion of our neighbours. Besides the gaiety of their churches (where folks go to see what they call *una bella devotione*, i. e. a sort of religious opera) they make fire-works, almost every week, out of devotion; the streets are often hung with arras, out of devotion; and, what is still more strange, the ladies invite gentlemen to their houses, and treat them with music and sweetmeats, out of devotion. In a word, were it not for this devotion of its inhabitants, Naples would have little else to recommend it beside the air and situation. Learning is in no very thriving state here, as indeed no where else in Italy: however, among many pretenders,
some

some men of taste are to be met with. A friend of mine told me, not long since, that being to visit Salvini at Florence, he found him reading your Homer: he liked the notes extremely; and could find no other fault with the version, but that he thought it approached too near a paraphrase; which shews him not to be sufficiently acquainted with our language. I wish you health to go on with that noble work; and when you have that, I need not wish you success. You will do me the justice to believe, that whatever relates to your welfare is sincerely wished by

Your, &c.

LETTER VI.

TO DR. ARBUTHNOT.

April 17, 1717.

WITH much difficulty I reached the top of mount Vesuvius, in which I saw a vast aperture full of smoke, which hindered

hindered the seeing its depth and figure. I heard within that horrid gulf certain odd sounds, which seemed to proceed from the belly of the mountain; a sort of murmuring, sighing, throbbing, churning, dashing (as it were) of waves, and, between whiles, a noise like that of thunder, or cannon, which was constantly attended with a clattering, like that of tiles falling from the tops of houses on the streets. Sometimes, as the wind changed, the smoke grew thinner, discovering a very ruddy flame, and the jaws of the pan, or *crater*, streaked with red and several shades of yellow. After an hour's stay, the smoke, being moved by the wind, gave us short and partial prospects of the great hollow, in the flat bottom of which I could discern two furnaces, almost contiguous: that on the left, seeming about three yards in diameter, glowed with red flame, and threw up red-hot stones with a hideous noise, which, as they fell back, caused the fore-mentioned clattering. May 8, in the morning, I ascended to the top of Vesuvius a second time, and found a different face of things.

The

The smoke ascending upright, gave a full prospect of the crater, which, as I could judge, is about a mile in circumference, and an hundred yards deep. A conical mount had been formed since my last visit, in the middle of the bottom: this mount, I could see, was made of the stones thrown up and fallen back again into the crater. In this new hill remained the two mounts, or furnaces, already mentioned: that on our left was in the vertex of the hill which it had formed round it, and raged more violently than before, throwing up, every three or four minutes, with a dreadful bel-
lowing, a vast number of red-hot stones, sometimes, in appearance, above a thousand, and at least 3000 feet higher than my head, as I stood upon the brink: but there being little or no wind, they fell back perpendicularly into the crater, increasing the conical hill. The other mouth, to the right, was lower in the side of the same new-formed hill: I could discern it to be filled with red-hot liquid matter, like that in the furnace of a glass-house, which raged and wrought as the waves of the sea, causing a short, abrupt
noise,

noise, like what may be imagined to proceed from a sea of quicksilver dashing among uneven rocks. This stuff would sometimes spew over, and run down the convex side of the conical hill; and, appearing at first red-hot, it changed colour, and hardened as it cooled, shewing the first rudiments of an eruption, or, if I may say so, an eruption in miniature. Had the wind driven in our faces, we had been in no small danger of stifling by the sulphureous smoke, or being knocked on the head by lumps of molten minerals, which we saw had sometimes fallen on the brink of the crater, upon those shots from the gulf at bottom. But, as the wind was favourable, I had an opportunity to survey this odd scene for above an hour and a half together; during which it was very observable, that all the volleys of smoke, flame, and burning stones, came only out of the hole to our left, while the liquid stuff in the other mouth wrought and overflowed, as hath been already described. June 5, after an horrid noise, the mountain was seen at Naples to spew a little out of the crater. The same continued

the 6th. The 7th, nothing was observed till within two hours of night, when it began a hideous bellowing, which continued all that night, and the next day till noon, causing the windows, and, as some affirm, the very houses in Naples to shake. From that time it spewed vast quantities of molten stuff to the south, which streamed down the side of the mountain, like a great pot boiling over. This evening I returned from a voyage through Apulia, and was surpris'd, passing by the north side of the mountain, to see a great quantity of ruddy smoke lie along a huge tract of sky over the river of molten stuff, which was itself out of sight. The 9th, Vesuvius raged less violently : that night we saw, from Naples, a column of fire shoot between whiles out of its summit. The 10th, when we thought all would have been over, the mountain grew very outrageous again, roaring and groaning most dreadfully. You cannot form a juster idea of this noise, in the most violent fits of it, than by imagining a mixed sound made up of the raging of a tempest, the murmur of a troubled sea, and the
roaring

roaring of thunder and artillery, confused
 all together. It was very terrible, as we
 heard it in the further end of Naples, at
 the distance of above twelve miles : this
 moved my curiosity to approach the
 mountain. Three or four of us got into
 a boat, and were set ashore at *Torre del*
Greco, a town situate at the foot of Vesu-
 vius, to the south-west, whence we rode
 four or five miles before we came to the
 burning river, which was about midnight.
 The roaring of the volcano grew exceed-
 ing loud and horrible as we approached.
 I observed a mixture of colours in the
 cloud over the crater, green, yellow, red,
 and blue ; there was likewise a ruddy, dis-
 mal light in the air over that tract of land
 where the burning river flowed ; ashes
 continually showered on us all the way
 from the sea-coast : all which circum-
 stances, set off and augmented by the
 horror and silence of the night, made a
 scene the most uncommon and astonishing
 I ever saw, which grew still more extraor-
 dinary as we came nearer the stream. Ima-
 gine a vast torrent of liquid fire rolling
 from the top down the side of the moun-
 F tain,

tain, and, with irresistible fury, bearing down and consuming vines, olives, fig-trees, houses; in a word, every thing that stood in its way. This mighty flood divided into different channels, according to the inequalities of the mountain: the largest stream seemed half a mile broad at least, and five miles long. The nature and consistence of these burning torrents have been described with so much exactness and truth, by *Borellus*, in his Latin treatise of Mount *Ætna*, that I need say nothing of it. I walked so far before my companions up the mountain, along the side of the river of fire, that I was obliged to retire in great haste, the sulphureous steam having surprised me, and almost taken away my breath. During our return, which was about three o'clock in the morning, we constantly heard the murmur and groaning of the mountain, which, between whiles, would burst out into louder peals, throwing up huge spouts of fire and burning stones, which falling down again, resembled the stars in our rockets. Sometimes I observed two, at others three, distinct columns of flames;

flames ; and sometimes one vast one, that seemed to fill the whole crater. These burning columns, and the fiery stones, seemed to be shot 1000 feet perpendicular above the summit of the volcano. The 11th, at night, I observed it, from a terrass in Naples, to throw up, incessantly, a vast body of fire, and great stones, to a surprising height. The 12th, in the morning, it darkened the sun with ashes and smoke, causing a sort of eclipse. Horrid bellowings, this and the foregoing day, were heard at Naples, whither part of the ashes also reached : at night I observed it throwing up flame, as on the 11th. On the 13th, the wind changing, we saw a pillar of black smoke shot upright to a prodigious height : at night I observed the mount to cast up fire as before, though not so distinctly because of the smoke. The 14th, a thick black cloud hid the mountain from Naples. The 15th, in the morning, the court and walls of our house in Naples were covered with ashes. The 16th, the smoke was driven by a westerly wind from the town

to the opposite side of the mountain. The 17th, the smoke appeared much diminished, fat, and greasy. The 18th, the whole appearance ended; the mountain remaining perfectly quiet without any visible smoke or flame. A gentleman of my acquaintance, whose window looked towards Vesuvius, assured me that he observed several flashes, as it were of lightening, issue out of the mouth of the volcano. It is not worth while to trouble you with the conjectures * I have formed concerning the cause of these phenomena, from what I observed in the *Lacus Am-santi*, the *Solfatara*, &c. as well as in Mount Vesuvius. One thing I may ven-

* Our Author's conjectures, on the cause of the phenomena above mentioned, do not appear in any of his writings; but he has often communicated them; in conversation, to his friends. He observed, that all the remarkable volcanos in the world were near the sea. It was his opinion, therefore, that a vacuum being made in the bowels of the earth, by a vast body of inflammable matter taking fire, the water rushed in, and was converted into steam: which simple cause was sufficient to produce all the wonderful effects of volcanos; as appears from Savery's fire engine for raising water, and from the *Æolipile*.

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ture to say, that I saw the fluid matter rise out of the center of the bottom of the crater, out of the very middle of the mountain, contrary to what *Borellus* imagines, whose method of explaining the eruption of a volcano by an inflexed syphon, and the rules of hydrostatics, is likewise inconsistent with the torrent's flowing down from the very vertex of the mountain. I have not seen the crater since the eruption, but design to visit it again before I leave Naples. I doubt there is nothing in this worth shewing the Society: as to that, you will use your discretion.

E. (it should be G.) BERKELEY.

The following Extracts from Letters to Mr. Thomas Prior, of Dublin, it is hoped, will not be unacceptable to the reader, as they serve to mark the progress of the Bermuda project, and of the Author's hopes and fears on that interesting occasion.

Extr. 1. London, Dec. 8, 1724.—Dear Tom, You wrote to me something or other which I received a fortnight ago, about temporal affairs, which I have no leisure to think of at present. The lord chancellor is not a busier man than myself; and I thank God my pains are not without success, which hitherto hath answered beyond expectation. Doubtless the English are a nation *très éclairée*. Let me know whether you have wrote to Mr. Newman whatever you judged might give him a good opinion of our project. Let me also know where Bermuda Jones lives, or where he is to be met with.

Ex. 2. April 20, 1725. Pray give my service to Caldwell, and let him know that in case he goes abroad with Mr. Stewart, Jaques, who lived with Mr. Ashe, is desirous to attend upon him.—I have obtained reports from the bishop of London, the board of trade and plantations, and the attorney and solicitor general, in favour of the Bermuda scheme, and hope to have the warrant signed by his Majesty this week.

Ex. 3. June 3, 1725. Yesterday the charter passed the privy seal. This day the new chancellor began his office by putting the Recipe to it.

Ex. 4. June 12, 1725. The charter hath passed all the seals, and is now in my custody. It hath cost me 130l. dry fees, beside expedition money to men in office.

Ex. 5. Sept. 3, 1725. I wrote long since to Caldwell about his going to Bermuda, but had no answer; which makes me think my letter miscarried. I

must now desire you to give my service to him, and know whether he still retains the thoughts he once seemed to have of entering into that design. I know he hath since got an employment, &c. but I have good reason to think he would not suffer in his temporalities by taking one of our fellowships, although he resigned all that. In plain English, I have good assurance that our college will be endowed beyond any thing expected or desired hitherto. This makes me confident he would lose nothing by the change; and on this supposition only I propose it to him. I wish he may judge rightly in this matter, as well for his own sake as for the sake of the college.

Ex. 6. Jan. 27, 1726. I must once more entreat you, for the sake of old friendship, to pluck up a vigorous active spirit, and disencumber me of the affairs relating to the inheritance, by putting one way or other a final issue to them. I thank God I find in matters of a more difficult nature good effects of activity and resolution, I mean Bermuda,

da, with which my hands are full, and which is in a fair way to thrive and flourish in spite of all opposition.

Ex. 7. Feb. 6, 1726. I am in a fair way of having a very noble endowment for the college of Bermuda, though the late meeting of parliament, and the preparations of a fleet, &c. will delay the finishing things which depend in some measure on the parliament, and to which I have gained the consent of the government, and indeed of which I make no doubt; but only the delay, it is to be feared, will make it impossible for me to set out this spring. One good effect of this, I hope, may be, that you will have disembarassed yourself of all sort of business that may detain you here, and so be ready to go with us: in which case I may have somewhat to propose to you, that I believe is of a kind agreeable to your inclinations, and may be of considerable advantage to you. But you must say nothing of this to any one, nor of any one thing that I have now hinted concerning endowment, delay, going, &c. I have

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heard

heard lately from Caldwell, who wrote to me on an affair in which it will not be in my power to do him any service. I answered his letter, and mentioned somewhat about Bermuda, with an overture for his being fellow there. I desire you would discourse him, as from yourself, on that subject, and let me know his thoughts and dispositions towards engaging in that design.

Ex. 8. March 15, 1726. I had once thought I should be able to have set out for Bermuda this season; but his Majesty's long stay abroad, the late meeting of parliament, and the present posture of foreign affairs, taking up the thoughts both of ministers and parliament, have postponed the settling of certain lands in St. Christopher's on our college, so as to render the said thoughts abortive. I have now my hands full of that business, and hope to see it soon settled to my wish. In the mean time, my attendance on this business renders it impossible for me to mind my private affairs. Your assistance, therefore, in them, will not only be a kind

kind service to me, but also to the public weal of our college, which would very much suffer, if I were obliged to leave this kingdom before I saw an endowment settled on it. For this reason I must depend upon you.

Ex. 9. April 19, 1726. Last Saturday I sent you the instrument, empowering you to set my deanry. It is at present my opinion, that matter had better be deferred till the charter of St. Paul's College hath got through the House of Commons, who are now considering it. In ten days, at farthest, I hope to let you know the event hereof; which, as it possibly may affect some circumstance in the farming my said deanry, is the occasion of giving you this trouble for the present, when I am in the greatest hurry of business I ever knew in my life, and have only time to add, that I am, &c.

Ex. 10. May 12, 1726. After six weeks struggle against an earnest opposition from different interests and motives, I have yesterday carried my point, just as I desired,

fired, in the House of Commons, by an extraordinary majority, none having the confidence to speak against it, and not above two giving their negatives, which was done in so low a voice, as if they themselves were ashamed of it. They were both considerable men in stocks in trade, and in the city: and, in truth, I have had more opposition from that sort of men, and from the governors and traders to America, than from any others. But God be praised, there is an end of all their narrow and mercantile views and endeavours, as well as of the jealousies and suspicions of others (some whereof were very great men) who apprehended this college may produce an independency in America, or at least lessen its dependency upon England. Now I must tell you, that you have nothing to do but go on with farming my deanry, &c. according to the tenor of my former letter, which I suspended, by a subsequent one, till I should see the event of yesterday.

Ex. 11. Aug. 4, 1726. You mentioned a friend of Synge's, who was desirous
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to be one of our fellows. Pray let me know who he is, and the particulars of his character. There are many competitors, more than vacancies; and the fellowships are likely to be very good ones: so I would willingly see them well bestowed.

Ex. 12. Dec. 1, 1726. Bermuda is now on a better and surer foot than ever. After the address of the Commons, and his Majesty's most gracious answer, one would have thought all difficulties had been over. But much opposition hath been since raised (and that by very great men) to the design. As for the obstacles thrown in my way by interested men, though there hath been much of that, I never regarded it, no more than the clamours and calumnies of ignorant mistaken people: but in good truth it was with much difficulty, and the peculiar blessing of God, that the point was carried maugre the strong opposition in the cabinet council; wherein, nevertheless, it hath of late been determined to go on with the grant pursuant to the address of the
House

House of Commons, and to give it all possible dispatch. Accordingly his Majesty hath ordered the warrant for passing the said grant to be drawn. The persons appointed to contrive the draught of the warrant, are the solicitor general, baron Scroop of the treasury, and my very good friend Mr. Hutcheson. You must know, that in July last the lords of the treasury had named commissioners for taking an estimate of the value and quantity of the crown lands in St. Christopher's, and for receiving proposals either for selling or farming the same, for the benefit of the public. Their report is not yet made; and the treasury were of opinion, they could not make a grant to us till such time as the whole were sold or farmed pursuant to such report. But the point I am now labouring is, to have it done without delay. And how this may be done without embarrassing the treasury in their after disposal of the whole lands, was this day the subject of a conference between the solicitor general, Mr. Hutcheson, and myself. The method agreed on is, by a rent charge on
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the whole crown lands, redeemable on the crown's paying twenty thousand pounds, for the use of the president and fellows of St. Paul's, and their successors. Sir Robert Walpole hath signified, that he hath no objection to this method; and I doubt not baron Scroop will agree to it: by which means the grant may be passed before the meeting of parliament; after which we may prepare to set out on our voyage in April. I have unawares run into this long account, because you desired to know how the affair of Bermuda stood at present.

Ex. 13. Feb. 27, 1727. My going to Bermuda I cannot positively say when it will be. I have to do with very busy people at a very busy time. I hope nevertheless to have all that business completely finished in a few weeks.

Ex. 14. April 11, 1727. Now I mention my coming to Ireland, I must earnestly desire you by all means to keep this a secret from every individual creature. I cannot justly say what time
(probably

(probably some time next month) I shall be there, or how long ; but find it necessary to be there to transact matters with one or two of my associates, whom yet I would not have know of my coming till I am on the spot ; and, for several reasons, am determined to keep myself as secret and concealed as possible all the time I am in Ireland. In order to this, I make it my request, that you will hire for me an entire house, as neat and convenient as you can get, somewhere within a mile of Dublin, for half a year. But what I principally desire is, that it be in no town or village, but in some quiet, private place, out of the way of roads or street or observation. I would have it hired with necessary furniture for a kitchen, a couple of chambers, and a parlour. At the same time, I must desire you to hire an honest maid servant who can keep it clean, and dress a plain bit of meat : a man servant I shall bring with me. You may do all this either in your own name, or as for a friend of yours, one Mr. Brown (for that is the name I shall assume), and let me know it as soon as possible. There
are

are several little scattered houses with gardens about Clontarf, Rathfarnham, &c. I remember particularly the old castle of Rathmines, and a little white house upon the hills by itself, beyond the old men's hospital; likewise in the outgoings or fields about St. Kevin's, &c. In short, in any snug private place within half a mile or a mile of town. I would have a bit of a garden to it, no matter what sort. Mind this, and you will oblige your's.

Ex. 15. May 20, 1727. I would by all means have a place secured for me by the end of June: it may be taken only for three months. I am, God be praised, very near concluding the crown grant to our college, having got over all difficulties and obstructions, which were not a few. I conclude in great haste your's.

Ex. 16. June 13, 1727. Poor Caldwell's death I had heard of two or three posts before I received your letters. Had he lived, his life would not have been agreeable. He was formed for retreat and
G study;

study; but of late was grown fond of the world, and getting into business. — A house between Dublin and Drumcondra I can by no means approve of: the situation is too public, and what I chiefly regard is privacy. I like the situation of Lord's house much better, and have only one objection to it, which is your saying he intends to use some part of it himself: for this would be inconsistent with my view of being quite concealed: and the more so, because Lord knows me; which, of all things, is what I would avoid. His house and price would suit me. If you can get such another quite to myself, snug, private, and clean, with a stable, I shall not matter whether it be painted or no, or how it is furnished, provided it be clean and warm. I aim at nothing magnificent or grand (as you term it) which might probably defeat my purpose of continuing concealed.

Ex. 17. June 15, 1727. Yesterday we had an account of King George's death. This day King George II. was proclaimed. All the world here are in a hurry,

hurry, and I as much as any body, our grant being defeated by the King's dying before the broad seal was annexed to it, in order to which it was passing through the offices. I have *la mer à boire* again. You shall hear from me when I know more. At present I am at a loss what course to take.

Ex. 17. June 27, 1727. In a former letter I gave you to know, that my affairs were unravelled by the death of his Majesty. I am now beginning on a new foot, and with good hopes of success. The warrant for our grant had been signed by the King, countersigned by the lords of the treasury, and passed the attorney general: here it stood, when the express came of the King's death. A new warrant is now preparing, which must be signed by his present Majesty, in order to a patent's passing the broad seal. As soon as this affair is finished, I propose going to Ireland.

Ex. 18. July 6, 1727. I have obtained a new warrant for a grant, signed by his present Majesty, contrary to the expectations

tions of my friends, who thought nothing could be expected of that kind in this great hurry of business. As soon as this grant, which is of the same import with that begun by his late Majesty, hath passed the offices and seals, I propose to execute my design of going to Ireland.

Ex. 19. July 21, 1727. My grant is now got further than where it was at the time of the King's death. I am in hopes the broad seal will soon be put to it, what remains to be done, in order thereto, being only matter of form: so that I propose setting out from hence in a fortnight's time. When I set out, I shall write at the same time, to tell you of it. I know not whether I shall stay longer than a month on that side of the water: I am sure I shall not want the country lodging, I desired you to procure, for a longer time. Do not, therefore, take it for more than a month, if that can be done. I remember certain remote suburbs, called Pimlico and Dolphin's Barn; but know not whereabout they lie. If either of them be situate in a private pleasant place,

place, and airy, near the fields, I should therein like a first floor in a clean house (I desire no more); and it would be better if there was a bit of a garden, where I had the liberty to walk. This I mention, in case my former desire cannot be conveniently answered for so short a time as a month; and, if I may judge at this distance, those places seem as private as a house in the country. For you must know, what I chiefly aim at is secrecy. This makes me uneasy, to find that there hath been a report spread among some of my friends in Dublin, of my designing to go over. I cannot account for this, believing, after the precautions I had given you, that you would not mention it, directly or indirectly, to any mortal.

Ex. 20. Feb. 20, 1728. I need not repeat to you what I told you here of the necessity there is for my raising all the money possible against my voyage; which, God willing, I shall begin in May, whatever you may hear suggested to the contrary; though you need not

mention this. I propose to set out for Dublin about a month hence: but of this you must not give the least intimation to any body. I beg the favour of you to look out at leisure a convenient lodging for me in or about Church-street, or such other place as you shall think the most retired.—I do not design to be known when I am in Ireland.

Ex. 21. April 6, 1728. I have been detained from my journey, partly in expectation of Dr. Clayton's coming, who was doing business in Lancashire, and partly in respect to the excessive rains. The Doctor hath been several days in town, and we have had so much rain, that probably it will be soon over. I am, therefore, daily expecting to set out, all things being provided. Now it is, of all things, my earnest desire (and for very good reasons) not to have it known that I am in Dublin. Speak not, therefore, one syllable of it to any mortal whatsoever. When I formerly desired you to take a place for me near the town, you gave out, that you were looking for a retired
lodging

lodging for a friend of your's ; upon which every body surmised me to be the person. I must beg you not to act in the like manner now; but to take for me an entire house in your own name, and as for yourself: for, all things considered, I am determined upon a whole house, with no mortal in it but a maid of your own putting, who is to look on herself as your servant. Let there be two bed-chambers ; one for you, another for me ; and, as you like, you may ever and anon lie there. I would have the house, with necessary furniture, taken by the month (or otherwise, as you can) ; for I purpose staying not beyond that time : and yet, perhaps, I may. Take it as soon as possible, and never think of saving a week's hire, by leaving it to do when I am there. Dr. Clayton thinks (and I am of the same opinion) that a convenient place may be found in the further end of Great Britain-street, or Ballibough-bridge — by all means beyond Thomson's, the Fellow's. Let me entreat you to say nothing of this to any body ; but to do the thing directly. In

this affair I consider convenience more than expence; and would, of all things, (cost what it will) have a proper place in a retired situation, where I may have access to fields and sweet air, provided against the moment I arrive. I am inclined to think, one may be better concealed in the outermost skirt of the suburbs than in the country, or within the town: wherefore, if you cannot be accommodated where I mention, enquire in some other skirt or remote suburb. A house quite detached, in the country, I should have no objection to, provided you judge, that I shall not be liable to discovery in it. The place called Bermuda I am utterly against. Dear Tom, do this matter cleanly and cleverly, without waiting for further advice. You see I am willing to run the risk of the expence. To the person from whom you hire it (whom alone I would have you speak of it to) it will not seem strange you should at this time of the year be desirous, for your own convenience or health, to have a place in a free and open air. If you cannot get a house, without
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taking it for a longer time than a month, take it at such the shortest time it can be let for, with agreement for further continuing, in case there be occasion.—Mr. Madden, who witnesses the letter of attorney, is now going to Ireland. He is a clergyman, and man of estate in the north of Ireland.

Ex. 22. Gravesend, Sept. 5, 1728. To-morrow, with God's blessing, I set sail for Rhode Island, with my wife and a friend of her's, my Lady Hancock's daughter, who bears us company. I am married, since I saw you, to Miss Forster, daughter of the late chief justice, whose humour and turn of mind pleases me beyond any thing I knew in her whole sex. Mr. James, Mr. Dalton, and Mr. Smilert, go with us on this voyage: we are now all together at Gravesend, and engaged in one view. When my next rents are paid, I must desire you to enquire for my cousin, Richard Berkeley *, who

* This act of goodness to a poor relation, being a matter altogether of a private nature, the editor was not

who was bred a public notary, (I suppose he may by that time be out of his apprenticeship), and give him 20 moidores, as a present from me, towards helping him on his beginning the world. I believe I shall have occasion for 600 l. English before this year's income is paid by the farmers of my deanry : I must, therefore, desire you to speak to Messrs. Swift, &c. to give me credit for said sum in London about three months hence, in case I have occasion to draw for it, and I shall willingly pay their customary interest for the same, till the farmers pay it to them ; which, I hope, you will order punctually to be done by the first of June. Direct for me in Rhode Island, and enclose your letter in a cover

not sure, whether he ought to have communicated it to the public. Certainly it is not given as an uncommon feature in our Author's character, that he should be liberal to his relations : his letters furnish many proofs of his generosity. But the reader will be pleased to recollect the time when this young man's wants were attended to—the whole soul of the Bermuda projector on the stretch to attain what, after so many obstructions, seemed at last to be within his grasp.

to Thomas Corbet, Esq; at the Admiralty Office in London, who will always forward my letters by the first opportunity. Adieu: I write in great haste. A copy of my charter was sent to Dr. Ward by Dr. Clayton: if it be not arrived, when you go to London, write, out of the charter, the clause relating to my absence. Adieu once more.

Ex. 23. Newport, in Rhode Island, April 24, 1729. I can by this time say something to you, from my own experience, of this place and people. The inhabitants are of a mixed kind, consisting of many sects and subdivisions of sects. Here are four sorts of Anabaptists, besides Presbyterians, Quakers, Independents, and many of no profession at all. Notwithstanding so many differences, here are fewer quarrels about religion than elsewhere, the people living peaceably with their neighbours, of whatsoever persuasion. They all agree in one point, that the church of England is the second-best. The climate is like that of Italy, and not at all colder in the winter than I have known

known it every - where north of Róme. The spring is late : but, to make amends, they assure me the autumns are the finest and longest in the world ; and the summers are much pleasanter than those of Italy, by all accounts, forasmuch as the grass continues green, which it doth not there. This island is pleasantly laid out in hills and vales and rising grounds ; hath plenty of excellent springs and fine rivulets, and many delightful landscapes of rocks and promontories, and adjacent lands. The provisions are very good ; so are the fruits, which are quite neglected, though vines sprout up of themselves to an extraordinary size, and seem as natural to this soil as to any I ever saw. The town of Newport contains about six thousand souls, and is the most thriving flourishing place in all America, for its bigness. It is very pretty, and pleasantly situated. I was never more agreeably surprized than at the first sight of the town and its harbour. I could give you some hints that may be of use to you, if you were disposed to take advice ; but, of all men in the world, I

never

never found encouragement to give you any.—I have heard nothing from you, or any of my friends in England or Ireland, which makes me suspect my letters were in one of the vessels that were wrecked. I write in great haste, and have no time to say a word to my brother Robin: let him know we are in good health. Take care that my draughts are duly honoured, which is of the greatest importance to my credit here; and, if I can serve you in these parts, you may command your's, &c.

Ex. 24. Newport, in Rhode Island, June 12, 1729. Being informed that an inhabitant of this country is on the point of going for Ireland, I would not omit writing to you. The winter, it must be allowed, was much sharper than the usual winters in Ireland, but not at all sharper than I have known them in Italy. To make amends, the summer is exceeding delightful: and, if the spring begins late, the autumn ends proportionably later than with you, and is said to be the finest in the world. I snatch this moment to write;
and

and have time only to add, that I have got a son, who, I thank God, is likely to live. —I find, it hath been reported in Ireland, that we purpose settling here: I must desire you to discountenance any such report. The truth is, if the King's bounty were paid in, and the charter could be removed hither, I should like it better than Bermuda. But if this were mentioned before the payment of said money, it might perhaps hinder it, and defeat all our designs. As to what you say of Hamilton's proposal, I can only answer at present by a question, viz. Whether it be possible for me, in my absence, to be put in possession of the deanry of Dromore? Desire him to make that point clear, and you shall hear further from me.

Ex. 25. Rhode Island, March 9, 1730. My situation hath been so uncertain, and is like to continue so, till I am clear about the receipt of his Majesty's bounty, and, in consequence thereof, of the determination of my associates, that you are not to wonder at my having given no categorical answer to the proposal you made in relation.

relation to Hamilton's deanry, which his death hath put an end to. If I had returned, I should perhaps have been under some temptation to have changed: but as my design still continues to wait the event, and go to Bermuda as soon as I can get associates and money, which my friends are now soliciting in London, I shall in such case persist in my first resolution, of not holding any deanry beyond the limited time.—I live here upon land that I have purchased, and in a farmhouse that I have built in this island: it is fit for cows and sheep, and may be of good use in supplying our college at Bermuda. Among my delays and disappointments, I thank God I have two domestic comforts that are very agreeable, my wife and my little son; both which exceed my expectations, and fully answer all my wishes.—Messrs. James, Dalton, and Smilert, &c. are at Boston, and have been there these four months. My wife and I abide by Rhode Island, preferring quiet and solitude to the noise of a great town, notwithstanding all the solicitations that have been used to draw us thither.—

I have desired Mac Manus, in a letter to Dr. Ward, to allow twenty pounds per ann. for me towards the poor-house now on foot for clergymen's widows in the diocese of Derry.

Ex. 26. Rhode Island, May 7, 1730. Last week I received a packet from you, by the way of Philadelphia, the postage whereof amounted to above four pounds of this country money. I thank you for the enclosed pamphlet *, which, in the main, I think very seasonable and useful. It seems to me, that, in computing the sum total of the loss by absentees, you have extended some articles beyond their due proportion—e. g. when you charge the whole income of occasional absentees in the third class: and that you have charged some articles twice—e. g. when you make distinct articles for law-suits, 9000*l.* and for attendance on employments, and other business, 8000*l.* both which seem already charged in the third

* Mr. Prior's celebrated *List of the Absentees of Ireland*, published in 1729.

class. The tax you propose seems very reasonable, and I wish it may take effect, for the good of the kingdom, which will be obliged to you if it can be brought about. That it would be the interest of England to allow a free trade to Ireland I have been thoroughly convinced, ever since my being in Italy, and talking with the merchants there; and have upon all occasions endeavoured to convince English gentlemen thereof, and have convinced some, both in and out of parliament; and I remember to have discoursed with you at large upon the subject when I was last in Dublin. Your hints for setting up new manufactures seem reasonable; but the spirit of projecting is low in Ireland.—Now, as to my own affair, I must tell you, I have no intention of continuing in these parts, but in order to settle the college his Majesty hath been pleased to found in Bermuda: and I want only the payment of the King's grant to transport myself and family thither. I am now employing the interest of my friends in England for that purpose; and I have wrote in the most pressing manner,

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either to get the money paid, or at least such an authentic answer as I may count upon, and may direct me what course I am to take. Dr. Clayton indeed hath wrote me word, that he hath been informed by a very good friend of mine, who had it from a very great man, that the money will not be paid: but I cannot think a hearsay, at second or third hand, to be a proper answer for me to act upon. I have therefore suggested to the Doctor, that it might be proper for him to go himself to the Treasury with the letters patent, containing the grant in his hands, and there make his demand in form. I have also wrote to others to use their interest at court; though indeed one would have thought all sollicitation at an end, when once I had obtained a grant under his Majesty's hand, and the broad seal of England. As to my own going to London, and solliciting in person, I think it reasonable first to see what my friends can do; and the rather, because I shall have small hopes that my sollicitation will be regarded more than theirs. Be assured, I long to know the upshot of this matter;

and

and that, upon an explicit refusal; I am determined to return home; and that it is not at all in my thoughts to continue abroad and hold my deanry. It is well known to many considerable persons in England; that I might have had a dispensation for holding it in my absence during life, and that I was much pressed to it; but I resolutely declined it: and if our college had taken place as soon as I once hoped it would, I should have resigned before this time. A little after my coming to this island, I entertained some thoughts of applying to his Majesty (when Dr. Clayton had received the 20,000 *l.*) to translate our college hither; but have since seen cause to lay aside all thoughts of that matter. I do assure you, *bonâ fide*, that I have no intention to stay here longer than I can get an authentic answer from the government, which I have all the reason in the world to expect this summer; for, upon all private accounts, I should like Derry better than New England. As to my being in this island, I think I have already informed you that I have been at very great

expence in purchasing land and stock here, which might supply the defects of Bermuda in yielding those provisions to our college, the want of which was made a principal objection against its situation in that island. To conclude: as I am here in order to execute a design addressed for by parliament, and set on foot by his Majesty's royal charter, I think myself obliged to wait the event, whatever course is taken in Ireland about my deanry. I have wrote to both the bishops of Raphoe and Derry; but letters, it seems, are of uncertain passage: your last was half a year in coming; and I have had some a year after their date, though often in two or three months, and sometimes less. I must desire you to present my duty to both their lordships, and acquaint them with what I have now wrote to you, in answer to the kind message from my lord bishop of Derry, conveyed by your hands; for which pray return my humble thanks to his lordship. My wife gives her service to you: she hath been lately ill of a miscarriage, but is now, I thank God, recovered. Our little son is great joy to us:

we are such fools as to think him the most perfect thing in its kind that we ever saw.

Ex. 27. Newport, July 20, 1730. Since my last, of May 7, I have not had one line from the persons to whom I had wrote to make the last instances for the 20,000*l*. This I impute to an accident that we hear happened to a man of war, as it was coming down the river, bound for Boston, where it was expected some months ago, and is now daily looked for with the new governor. The news-papers of last February mentioned Dr. Clayton's being made bishop. I wish him joy of his preferment, since I doubt we are not likely to see him in this part of the world.

The settlement of affairs with his fellow executor Mr. Marshal, with a Mr. Partington Vanhomrigh, and with the creditors of Mrs. Esther Vanhomrigh in London, involved our Author in a great deal of trouble for near four years. His letters to Mr. T. Prior, are full of this business, which can-

not at this day be interesting to any body. It is thought proper, however, to subjoin a few extracts from them, as a proof how strongly he felt this embarrassment in the midst of his Bermuda project.

Ex. 28. London, Dec. 8, 1724. Provided you bring my affair with Partinton to a complete issue before Christmas-day come twelvemonth, by reference or otherwise, that I may have my dividend, whatever it is, clear, I do hereby promise you to increase the premium I promised you before, by its fifth part, whatever it amounts to.

Ex. 29. July 20, 1725. Our South Sea stock is confirmed to be what I already informed you, 880*l.* somewhat more or less. But before you get Partinton and Marshal to sign the letters of attorney, or make the probates, nay, before you tell them of the value of the subscribed annuities, you should by all means, in my opinion, insist, carry, and secure, two points: first, that Partinton should consent to a partition of this stock, &c. which I believe

lieve he cannot deny : secondly, that Marshal should engage not to touch one penny of it till all debts on this side the water are satisfied. I even desire you would take advice, and legally secure it in such sort that he may not touch it if he would, till the said debts are paid. It would be the wrongest thing in the world, and give me the greatest pain possible, to think we did not administer in the justest sense. Whatever, therefore, appears to be due, let it be instantly paid : here is money sufficient to do it. I must, therefore, entreat you once for all, to clear up and agree with Marshal what is due, and then make an end, by paying that which it is a shame was not paid sooner. For God's sake adjust, finish, conclude, any way with Partinton ; for at the rate we have gone on these two years, we may go on twenty. In your next let me know what you have proposed to him and Marshal, and how they relish it. I hoped to have been in Dublin by this time ; but business grows out of business.—P. S. Bermuda prospers.

Ex. 30. Oct. 16, 1725. I beg you will lose no more time, but take proper me-

thods out of hand for selling the S. S. stock and annuities. I have very good reason to apprehend they will sink in their value; and desire you to let Vanhomrigh Partinton, and Mr. Marshal, know as much. The less there is to be expected from them, the more I must hope from you. I know not how to move them at this distance, but by you; and if what I have already said will not do, I profess myself to be at a loss for words to move you. You have told me Partinton was willing to refer matters to an arbitration, but not of lawyers; and that Marshal would refer them only to lawyers. For my part, rather than fail, I am for referring them to any honest knowing person or persons, whether lawyers or not lawyers; and if M. will not come into this, I desire you will do all you can to oblige him, either by persuasion or otherwise: particularly represent to him my resolution of going (with God's blessing), in April next, to Bermuda, which will probably make it his interest to compromise matters out of hand. But if he will not, agree, if possible, with P. to force him to compliance in putting an end to our disputes.

Ex. 31.

Ex. 31. Dec. 2, 1725. I must repeat to you, that I earnestly wish to see things brought to some conclusion with Partington. Dear Tom, it requires some address, diligence, and management, to bring business of this kind to an issue; which should not seem impossible, considering it can be none of our interests to spend our lives and substance in law. I am willing to refer things to an arbitration, even not of lawyers. Pray push this point, and let me hear from you upon it.

Ex. 32. Dec. 11, 1725. It is now near three months since I told you there were strong reasons for haste [in selling the S. S. stock]; and these reasons grow every moment stronger. I need say no more; I can say no more to you.

Ex. 33. Dec. 30, 1725. I am exceedingly plagued by these creditors, and am quite tired and ashamed of repeating the same answer to them, That I expect every post to hear what Mr. Marshal and you think of their pretensions; and that then they shall be paid. It is now a full twelve-month

month that I have been expecting to hear from you on this head, and expecting in vain. I shall therefore expect no longer, nor hope nor desire to know what Mr. Marshal thinks, but only what you think, or what appears to you by Mrs. Vanhomrigh's papers and accounts. This is what solely depends on you, what I sued for several months ago, and what you promised to send me an account of long before this time.

Ex. 34. Jan. 20, 1726. I am worried to death by creditors : I see nothing done, neither towards clearing their accounts, nor settling the effects here, nor finishing affairs with Partinton. I am at an end of my patience, and almost of my wits. My conclusion is, not to wait a moment longer for Marshal, nor to have (if possible) any further regard to him, but to settle all things without him, and whether he will or no. How far this is practicable, you will know by consulting an able lawyer. I have some confused notion, that one executor may act by himself; but how far, and in what case,

you will thoroughly be informed. It is an infinite shame, that the debts here are not cleared up and paid. I have borne the shock and importunity of creditors above a twelvemonth, and am never the nearer—have nothing new to say to them: judge you what I feel. But I have already said all that can be said on this head. It is also no small disappointment, to find that we have been near three years doing nothing with respect to bringing things to a conclusion with Partinton. Is there no way of making a separate agreement with him? Is there no way of prevailing with him to consent to the sale of the reversion? Let me entreat you to proceed with a little management and dispatch in these matters, and inform yourself particularly, whether I may not come to a reference or arbitration with P. even though M. should be against it? whether I may not take steps that may compel M. to an agreement? what is the practised method, when one of two executors is negligent or unreasonable? in a word, whether an end may not be put to these matters one way or other? I do not doubt your skill:

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I only wish you were as active to serve an old friend, as I should be in any affair of your's that lay in my power.

Ex. 35. Sept. 3, 1726. I must desire you to send me, in a letter, a full state of the particulars of our pretensions upon Partinton, that I may have a view of the several emoluments expected from this suit, and the grounds of such expectation, these affairs being at present a little out of my thoughts; that so, having considered the whole, I may take advice here, and write thereupon to Marshal, in order to terminate that affair this winter, if possible. It is worth while to exert for once. If this be done, the whole partition may be made, and your share distinctly known and paid you between this and Christmas. But I know it cannot be done unless you exert. As for M. I had, from the beginning, no opinion of him, no more than you have; otherwise I should not have troubled any body else.

Ex. 36. Nov. 12, 1726. I have writ to you often for certain eclaircissements,
which

which are absolutely necessary to settle matters with the creditors, who importune me to death. You have no notion of the misery I have undergone, and do daily undergo on that account. — For God's sake disembrace these matters, that I may once be at ease to mind my other affairs of the college, which are enough to employ ten persons. I will not repeat what I have said in my former letters, but hope for your answer to all the points contained in them, and immediately to what relates to dispatching the creditors. I propose to make a purchase of land (which is very dear) in Bermuda, upon my first going thither; for which, and for other occasions, I shall want all the money I can possibly raise against my voyage. For this purpose it would be a mighty service to me, if the affairs with P. were adjusted this winter by reference or compromise. The state of all that business, which I desired you to send me, I do now again earnestly desire. What is doing, or has been done, in that matter? Can you contrive no way for bringing P. to an immediate sale

of

of the remaining lands? What is your opinion and advice upon the whole? What prospect can I have, if I leave things at sixes and sevens, when I go to another world, seeing all my remonstrances, even now that I am near at hand, are to no purpose? I know money is at present at a very high foot of exchange. I shall therefore wait a little, in hopes it may become lower: but it will, at all events, be necessary to draw over my money. I have spent here a matter of fix hundred pounds more than you know of, for which I have not yet drawn over. I had some other points to speak to, but am cut short.

Ex. 37. Dec. 1, 1726. I have lately received several letters of your's, which have given me a good deal of light with respect to Mrs. Vanhomrigh's affairs. But I am so much employed on the business of Bermuda, that I have hardly time to mind any thing else. I shall nevertheless snatch the present moment to write you short answers to the queries you propose. As to Bermuda, it is now, &c. [See above,
Ex.

Ex. 12.] You also desire I would speak to Ned. You must know, Ned hath parted from me ever since the beginning of last July. I allowed him six shillings a week, beside his annual wages; and, beside, an entire livery, I gave him old cloaths, which he made a penny of. But the creature grew idle and worthless to a prodigious degree: he was almost constantly out of the way; and when I told him of it, he used to give me warning. I bore with this behaviour about nine months, and let him know I did it in compassion to him, and in hopes he would mend: but finding no hopes of this, I was forced at last to discharge him, and take another, who is as diligent as he was negligent. When he parted from me, I paid him between six and seven pound which was due to him, and likewise gave him money to bear his charges to Ireland, whither he said he was going. I met him t'other day in the street; and asking why he was not gone to Ireland to his wife and child? he made answer, that he had neither wife nor child. He got, it seems, into another service when he left me,

but

but continued only a fortnight in it. The fellow is silly to an incredible degree, and spoiled by good usage.—I shall take care the pictures be sold in an auction. Mr. Smilert, whom I know to be a very honest skilful person in his profession, will see them put into an auction at the proper time, which he tells me is not till the town fills with company, about the meeting of parliament.—I remember to have told you, I could know more of matters here than perhaps people generally do. You thought we did wrong to sell: but the stocks are fallen, and depend upon it they will fall lower.

After our Author's return to Europe, the correspondence was renewed with Mr. Prior.—The following extracts will continue Dr. Berkeley's history to a late period of his life.

Ex. 38. Green-street, March 13, 1733.
I thank you for the account you sent me of the house, &c. on Arbor-hill. I approve of that and the terms: so you will fix the agreement for this year to come (according to the tenor of your letter)
with

with Mr. Lesly, to whom my humble service. I remember one of that name, a good sort of man, a class or two below me in the college. I am willing to pay for the whole year commencing from the 25th inst. but cannot take the furniture, &c. into my charge till I go over, which I truly propose to do as soon as my wife is able to travel. She expects to be brought to bed in two months; and, having had two miscarriages, one of which she was extremely ill of, in Rhode Island, she cannot venture to stir before she is delivered. This circumstance, not foreseen, occasions an unexpected delay, putting off to summer the journey I proposed to take in spring. I hope our affair with Partinton will be finished this term. We are here on the eve of great events, to-morrow being the day appointed for a pitched battle in the House of Commons.

Ex. 39. March 27, 1733. This comes to desire you will exert yourself on a public account; which, you know, is acting in your proper sphere. It has been

been represented here, that in certain parts of the kingdom of Ireland, justice is much obstructed for the want of justices of the peace, which is only to be remedied by taking in Dissenters. A great man hath spoke to me on this point. I told him the view of this was plain; and that, in order to facilitate this view, I suspected the account was invented, for that I did not think it true. Depend upon it, better service cannot be done at present, than by putting this matter as soon as possible in a fair light; and that supported by such proofs as may be convincing here. I therefore recommend it to you to make the speediest and exactest enquiry that you can into the truth of this fact, the result whereof send to me. Send me also the best estimate you can get of the number of Papists, Dissenters, and Churchmen, throughout the kingdom; an estimate also of Dissenters considerable for rank, figure, and estate; an estimate also of the Papists in Ulster. Be as clear in these points as you can. When the above-mentioned point was put to me, I said, that in my apprehension,

sion, there was no such lack of justice or magistrates, except in Kerry or Connaught, where the Dissenters were not considerable enough to be of any use in redressing the evil. Let me know particularly, whether there be any such want of justices of the peace in the county of Londonderry, or whether men are aggrieved there by being obliged to repair to them at too great distances. The prime serjeant, Singleton, may probably be a means of assisting you to get light in these particulars. The dispatch you give this affair will be doing the best service to your country. Enable me to clear up the truth, and to support it by such reasons and testimonies as may be felt or credited. Facts I am myself too much a stranger to, though I promise to make the best use I can of those you furnish me with, towards taking off an impression which, I fear, is already deep. If I succeed, I shall congratulate my being here at this juncture.

Ex. 40. April 14, 1733. I thank you for your last; particularly for that part

of it, wherein you promise the number of the justices of peace, of the Papists also, and the Protestants, throughout the kingdom, taken out of proper offices. I did not know such inventories had been taken by public authority, and am glad to find it so. Your argument for proving Papists but three to one, I had before made use of ; but some of the premises are not clear to Englishmen. Nothing can do so well as the estimate you speak of, to be taken from a public office ; which, therefore, I impatiently expect. As to the design I hinted, whether it is to be set on foot there or here I cannot say ; I hope it will take effect nowhere. It is yet a secret : I may nevertheless discover something of it in a little time, and you may then hear more. The political state of things on this side the water I need say nothing of : the public papers probably say too much ; though it cannot be denied much may be said. I must desire you, in your next, to let me know what premium there is for getting into the public fund which allows five per cent. in Ireland ; and whether a considerable

considerable sum might easily be purchased therein : also, what is the present legal current interest in Ireland ; and whether it be easy to lay out money on a secure mortgage, where the interest should be punctually paid. I shall be also glad to hear a word about the law-suit.

Ex. 41. April 19, 1733. I thank you for your last advices, and the catalogue of justices particularly ; of all which proper use shall be made. The number of Protestants and Papists throughout the kingdom, which, in your last but one, you said had been lately and accurately taken by the collectors of hearth-money, you promised, but have omitted to send : I shall hope for it in your next.

Ex. 42. May 1, 1733. I long for the numeration of Protestant and Popish families, which you tell me has been taken by the collectors. A certain person now here hath represented the Papists as seven to one ; which, I have ventured to

affirm, is wide of the truth. What lights you gave me, I have imparted to those who will make the proper use of them. I do not find that any thing was intended to be done by act of parliament here: as to that, your information seems right. I hope they will be able to do nothing any where. The approaching Act at Oxford is much spoken of. The entertainments of music, &c. in the theatre will be the finest that ever were known. For other public news, I reckon you know as much as yours.

Ex. 43. Jan. 7, 1734. My family are, I thank God, all well at present: but it will be impossible for us to travel before the spring. As to myself, by regular living and rising very early, which I find the best thing in the world; I am very much mended: insomuch, that though I cannot read, yet my thoughts seem as distinct as ever. I do, therefore, for amusement, pass my early hours in thinking of certain mathematical matters, which may possibly produce something. You say nothing of the law-suit: I hope
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it is to surprise me in your next, with an account of its being finished. Perhaps the house and garden on Montpelier-hill may be got a good pennyworth; in which case, I should not be averse to buying it. It is probable, a tenement in so remote a part may be purchased at an easy rate.

Ex. 44. Jan. 15, 1734. I received last post your three letters together, for which advices I give you thanks. I had, at the same time, two from baron Wainwright on the same account. That without my intermeddling I may have the offer of somewhat, I am apt to think, which may make me easy in point of situation and income, though I question whether the dignity will much contribute to make me so. Those who imagine, as you write, that I may pick and choose, to be sure think that I have been making my court here all this time, and would never believe (what is most true) that I have not been at the court, or at the minister's, but once these seven years. The care of my health and the love of

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retirement

retirement have prevailed over what-
soever ambition might have come to my
share.—Pray, send me as particular an ac-
count as you can get of the country, the
situation, the house, the circumstances
of the bishopric of Cloyne: and let me
know the charge of coming into a bi-
shopric, i. e. the amount of the fees and
first fruits,

Ex. 45. Jan. 19, 1734. Since my
last, I have kissed their Majesties hands
for the bishopric of Cloyne, having first
received an account from the duke of
Newcastle's office, setting forth, that his
grace had laid before the King the duke
of Dorset's recommendation, which was
readily complied with by his Majesty.
The condition of my own health, and
that of my family, will not suffer me to
travel at this season of the year: I must,
therefore, entreat you to take care of the
fees and patent. I shall be glad to hear
from you what you can learn about this
bishopric of Cloyne.

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Ex. 46. Jan. 22, 1734. On the 6th inst. the duke sent over his plan, wherein I was recommended to the bishopric of Cloyne: on the 14th I received a letter from the secretary's office, signifying his Majesty's having immediately complied therewith, and containing the duke of Newcastle's very obliging compliments thereupon. In all this I was nothing surprized, his grace the lord lieutenant having declared, on this side the water, that he intended to serve me the first opportunity; though, at the same time, he desired me to say nothing of it. As to the A. B. D. [Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Hoadley] I readily believe he gave no opposition. He knew it would be to no purpose, and the Queen herself had expressly enjoined him not to oppose me: this I certainly knew when the A. B. was here, though I never saw him. Notwithstanding all which, I had a strong penchant to be dean of Dromore, and not to take the charge of a bishopric upon me. Those who formerly opposed my being Dean of Downe have thereby made me a bishop; which rank, how

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desirable

desirable soever it may seem, I had before absolutely determined to keep out of. The situation of my own and my family's health will not suffer me to think of travelling before April. However, as on that side it may be thought proper that I should vacate the deanry of Derry, I am ready, as soon as I hear the bishopric of Cloyne is void by Dr. Synge's being legally possessed of the see of Ferns, to send over a resignation of my deanry: and I authorize you to signify as much, where you think proper. I should be glad you sent me a rude plan of the house, from bishop Synge's description, that I may forecast the furniture. The great man, whom you mention as my opponent, concerted his measures but ill: for it appears by your letter, that at the very time when my brother informed the Speaker of his soliciting against me there, the duke's plan had already taken place here, and the resolution was passed in my favour at St. James's. I am, nevertheless, pleased, as it gave me an opportunity of being obliged to the Speaker, which I shall not fail to acknowledge when I see him,

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which will probably be very soon, for he is expected here as soon as the session is up. My family are well, though I myself have gotten a cold this sharp foggy weather, having been obliged, contrary to my wonted custom, to be much abroad, paying compliments, and returning visits.

Ex. 47. Jan. 28, 1734. In a late letter you told me the bishopric of Cloyne is let for 1200*l.* per ann. out of which there is a small rent-charge of interest to be paid. I am informed, by a letter of yours which I received this day, that there is also a demesne of 800 acres adjoining to the episcopal house. I desire to be informed, by your next, whether these 800 acres are understood to be over and above the 1200*l.* per ann. and whether they were kept by former bishops in their own hands. In my last, I mentioned to you the impossibility of my going to Ireland before spring, and that I would send a resignation of my deanry, if need was, immediately upon the vacancy of the see of Cloyne. I have been since told, that this would be a step of some hazard, viz.

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in case of the king's death, which I hope is far off: however, one would not care to do a thing which may seem incautious and imprudent in the eye of the world; not but that I would rather do it than be obliged to go over at this season. But as the bulk of the deanry is in tithes, and a very inconsiderable part in land, the damage to my successor would be but a trifle upon my keeping it to the end of March. I would know what you advise on this matter.

Ex. 48. Feb. 7, 1734. I have been for several days laid up with the gout. When I last wrote to you I was confined, but at first knew not whether it might not be a sprain or hurt from the shoe. But it soon shewed itself a genuine fit of the gout in both my feet, by the pain, inflammation, swelling, &c. attended with a fever, and restless nights. With my feet lapped up in flannels, and raised on a cushion, I receive the visits of my friends, who congratulate me on this occasion, as much as on my preferment.

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Ex. 49. March 2, 1734. As to what you write of the prospect of new vacancies, and your advising that I should apply for a better bishopric, I thank you for your advice. But if it pleased God the bishop of Derry were actually dead, and there were ever so many promotions there-upon, I would not apply, or so much as open my mouth to any one friend to make an interest for getting any of them. To be so very hasty for a removal, even before I had seen Cloyne, would argue a greater greediness for lucre than I hope I shall ever have; not but that, all things considered, I have a fair demand upon the government for expence of time, and pains, and money, on the faith of public charters; as likewise, because I find the income of Cloyne considerably less than was at first represented. I had no notion that I should, over and above the charge of patents and first fruits, be obliged to pay between four and five hundred pounds, for which I shall never see a farthing in return: besides interest I am to pay for upwards of 300*l.* which principal devolves upon my successor. No
more

more was I apprized of three curates, viz. two at Youghal and one at Aghadee, to be paid by me: and after all, the certain value of the income I have not yet learned. My predecessor writes, that he doth not know the true value himself, but believes it may be about 1200*l.* per ann. including the fines, and striking them at a medium for seven years. The uncertainty, I believe, must proceed from the fines; but it may be supposed, that he knows exactly what the rents are, and what the tithes, and what the payments to the curates; of which particulars you may probably get an account from him. Sure I am, that if I had gone to Derry, and taken my affairs into my own hands, I might have made considerably above 1000*l.* a year, after paying the curates' salaries. And as for charities, such as school-boys, widows, &c. those ought not to be reckoned, because all sorts of charities, as well as contingent expences, must be much higher on a bishop than a dean. But in all appearance, subducting the money that I must advance, and the expence of the curates in Youghal and Aghadee,

Aghadee, I shall not have remaining 1000*l.* per ann. not even though the whole income was worth 1200*l.* of which I doubt, by Bishop Synges uncertainty, that it will be found to fall short. I thank you for the information you gave me of a house to be hired in Stephen's Green. I should like the Green very well for situation ; but I have no thoughts of taking a house in town suddenly ; nor would it be convenient for my affairs so to do, considering the great expence I must be at on coming into a small bishopric. My gout has left me : I have nevertheless a weakness remaining in my feet, and, what is worse, an extreme tenderness, the effect of my long confinement. I was abroad the beginning of this week, to take a little air in the park, which gave me a cold, and obliged me to physick, and two or three days confinement. I have several things to prepare, in order to my journey, and shall make all the dispatch I can. But why I should endanger my health by too much hurry, or why I should precipitate myself, in this convalescent state, into doubtful weather and cold lodgings

lodgings on the road, I do not see. There is but one reason that I can comprehend, why the great men there should be so urgent, viz. for fear that I should make an interest here in case of vacancies; which I have already assured you I do not intend to do: so they may be perfectly easy on that score.

Ex. 50. March 13, 1734. I am, *bonâ fide*, making all the haste I can. My library is to be embarked on board the first ship bound to Cork, of which I am in daily expectation. I suppose it will be no difficult matter to obtain an order from the commissioners to the custom-house-officers there, to let it pass duty-free; which at first word was granted here, on my coming from America. I wish you would mention this, with my respects, to Dr. Coghil. After my journey, I trust that I shall find my health much better, though at present I am obliged to guard against the east wind, with which we have been annoyed of late, and which never fails to disorder my head. I am in hopes, however, by what I hear, that I shall be
able

able to reach Dublin before my lord lieutenant leaves it. I shall reckon it my misfortune if I do not: I am sure it shall not be for want of doing all that lies in my power. I am in a hurry. I am obliged to manage my health; and I have many things to do. I must desire you, at your leisure, to look out a lodging for us, to be taken only by the week; for I shall stay no longer in Dublin than needs must. I would have the lodging taken for the 10th of April.

Ex. 51. March 20, 1734. There is one Mr. Cox, a clergyman, son to the late Dr. Cox, near Drogheda, who, I understand, is under the patronage of Dr. Coghil. Pray inform yourself of his character: whether he be a good man, one of parts and learning, and how he is provided for. This you may possibly do without my being named. Perhaps my brother may know something of him. I should be glad to be apprized of his character on my coming to Dublin. No one has recommended him to me: but his father was an ingenious man, and I saw

two sensible women, his sisters, at Rhode Island, which inclines me to think him a man of merit; and such only I would prefer. I have had certain persons recommended to me; but I shall consider their merits preferably to all recommendation. If you can answer for the ingenuity, learning, and good qualities, of the person you mentioned, preferably to that of others in competition, I should be very glad to serve him.

Ex. 52. St. Alban's, April 30, 1734. I was deceived by the assurance given me of two ships going to Cork. In the event, one could not take in my goods; and the other took freight for another port: so that, after all their delays and prevarications, I have been obliged to ship off my things for Dublin on board of Captain Leach. From this involuntary cause I have been detained here so long beyond my intentions, which really were to have got to Dublin before the parliament, which now I much question whether I shall be able to do, considering that, as I have two young children with me, I cannot

not make such dispatch on the road as otherwise I ought. The lodging in Gervais-street, which you formerly procured for me, will, I think, do very well. I shall want a stable for six coach-horses; for so many I bring with me.

Ex. 53. Cloyne, March 5, 1737. I here send you what you desire. If you approve of it, publish it in one or more news-papers: if you have any objection, let me know it by the next post. I mean, as you see, a brief abstract, which I could wish were spread through the nation, that men may think on the subject against next session. But I would not have this letter made public sooner than a week after the publication of the third part of my *Querist*, which I have ordered to be sent to you. I believe you may receive it about the time that this comes to your hands; for, as I told you in a late letter, I have hastened it as much as possible. I have used the same editor (Dr. Madden) for this as for the two foregoing parts.

Our spinning school is in a thriving
K 2 way.

way. The children begin to find a pleasure in being paid in hard money; which, I understand, they will not give to their parents, but keep to buy cloaths for themselves. Indeed I found it difficult and tedious to bring them to this; but I believe it will now do. I am building a workhouse for sturdy vagrants, and design to raise about two acres of hemp for employing them. Can you put me in a way of getting hemp-feed, or does your society distribute any? It is hoped your flax-feed will come in time. Last post, a letter from an English bishop tells me, a difference between the king and prince is got into parliament, and that it seems to be big with mischief, if a speedy expedient be not found to heal the breach. It relates to the provision for his R. Highness's family.—My three children have been ill. The eldest and youngest are recovered; but George is still unwell.

[Enclosed in the above a Letter to A. B. Esquire, from the Querist, containing Thoughts on a National Bank, printed in the Dublin Journal.]

Ex.

Ex. 54. Cloyne, Feb. 15, 1741. Mr. Faulkner, the following being a very safe and successful cure of the bloody flux, which at this time is become so general, you will do well to make it public. Give a heaped spoonful of common rosin powdered in a little fresh broth, every five or six hours, till the bloody flux is stopped; which I have always found before a farthing's worth of rosin was spent. If after the blood is staunched there remains a little looseness, this is soon carried off by milk and water boiled with a little chalk in it. This cheap and easy method I have often tried of late, and never knew it fail. I am your humble servant,
A. B.

Ex. 55. Cloyne, Feb. 24, 1741. I find you have published my remedy in the newspaper of this day. I now tell you that the patients must be careful of their diet, and especially beware of taking cold. The best diet I find to be plain broth of mutton or fowl, without seasoning of any kind. Their drink should be, till they are freed both from dysentery and diarr-

hoea, milk and water, or plain water boiled with chalk (drunk warm) e. g. about a large heaped spoonful to a quart. Sometimes I find it necessary to give it every four hours, and to continue it for a dose or two after the blood hath been stopped, to prevent relapses, which ill management hath now and then occasioned. Given in due time (the sooner the better) and with proper care, I take it to be as sure a cure for a dysentery as the bark for an ague. It has certainly, by the blessing of God, saved many lives, and continues to save many lives, in my neighbourhood. I shall be glad to know its success in any instances you may have tried it in.

Ex. 56. Cloyne, Feb. 26, 1741. I believe there is no relation that Mr. Sandys and Sir John Rushout have to lord Wilmington, other than what I myself made by marrying Sir John Rushout's sister to the late earl of Northampton, who was brother to lord Wilmington. Sandys is nephew to Sir John. As to kindred or affinity, I take it to have very little

little place in this matter. Nor do I think it possible to foretell whether the ministry will be whig or tory. The people are so generally and so much incensed, that (if I am rightly informed) both men and measures must be changed before we see things composed. Besides, in this disjointed state of things, the prince's party will be more considered than ever. It is my opinion, there will be no first minister in haste; and it will be new to act without one. When I had wrote thus far, I received a letter from a considerable hand on the other side the water, wherein are the following words:

“ Though the whigs and tories had gone
 “ hand in hand in their endeavour to de-
 “ molish the late ministry, yet some true
 “ whigs, to shew themselves such, were
 “ for excluding all tories from the new
 “ ministry. Lord Wilmington and duke
 “ of Dorset declared they would quit, if
 “ they proceeded on so narrow a bottom:
 “ and the prince, duke of Argyle, duke
 “ of Bedford, and many others, refused
 “ to come in, except there was to be a
 “ coalition of parties. After many fruit-

“ less attempts to effect this, it was at
 “ last atchieved between eleven and twelve
 “ on Tuesday night, and the prince went
 “ next morning to St. James’s. It had been
 “ that very evening quite despaired of :
 “ and the meeting of the parliament came
 “ on so fast, that there was a prospect of
 “ nothing but great confusion.” There
 is, I hope, a prospect now of much better
 things. I much wanted to see this scheme
 prevail ; which it has now done, and
 will, I trust, be followed by many happy
 consequences.

Ex. 57. Cloyne, May 19, 1741.
 Though the flax-seed came in such quan-
 tity and so late, yet we have above one
 half ourselves in ground ; the rest, to-
 gether with our own seed, has been given
 to our poor neighbours, and will, I doubt
 not, answer, the weather being very fa-
 vourable. The distresses of the sick and
 poor are endless. The havock of man-
 kind in the counties of Cork, Limerick,
 and some adjacent places, hath been in-
 credible. The nation probably will not
 recover this loss in a century. The other
 day,

day, I heard one from the county of Lime-
rick say, that whole villages were entirely
dispeopled. About two months since, I
heard Sir Richard Cox say, that five hun-
dred were dead in the parish where he
lives, though in a country, I believe, not
very populous. It were to be wished,
people of condition were at their seats in
the country during these calamitous times,
which might provide relief and employ-
ment for the poor. Certainly, if these
perish, the rich must be sufferers in the
end. We have tried, in this neighbour-
hood, the receipt of a decoction of briar-
roots for the bloody-flux, which you sent
me, and in some cases found it useful.
But that which we find the most speedy,
sure, and effectual cure, above all others,
is a heaped spoonful of rosin dissolved and
mixed over a fire with two or three
spoonfuls of oil, and added to a pint
of broth for a clyster: which, upon once
taking, hath never been known to fail
stopping the bloody-flux. At first I
mixed the rosin in the broth: but that
was difficult, and not so speedy a cure.

Ex. 58. Cloyne, Feb. 1746. (With a letter signed Eubulus, containing advice about the manner of cloathing the militia arrayed this year; which letter was printed in the Dublin Journal.) The above letter contains a piece of advice, which seems to me not unseasonable or useless. You may make use of Faulkner for conveying it to the public, without any intimation of the author. There is handed about a lampoon against our troop, which hath caused great indignation in the warriors of Cloyne. I am informed, that dean Gervais had been looking for the Querist, and could not find one in the shops, for my lord lieutenant, at his desire. I wish you could get one, handsomely bound, for his excellency; or, at least, the last published relating to the Bank, which consisted of excerpta out of the three parts of the Querist. I wrote to you before to procure two copies of this, for his excellency and Mr. Liddel.

Ex. 59. Jan. 24, 1747. You asked me, in your last letter, whether we had not
provided

provided a house in Cloyne for the reception and cure of sick persons. By your query it seems there is some such report: but what gave rise to it could be no more than this, viz. that we are used to lodge a few strolling sick with a poor tenant or two in Cloyne, and employ a poor woman or two to tend them, and supply them with a few necessaries from our house. This may be magnified (as things gather in the telling) into an hospital: but the truth is merely what I tell you. I wish you would send me a pamphlet political now and then, with what news you hear. — Is there any apprehension of an invasion upon Ireland?

Ex. 60. Feb. 6, 1747. Your manner of accounting for the weather seems to have reason in it. And yet there still remains something unaccountable, viz. why there should be no rain in the regions mentioned. If the bulk, figure, situation, and motion of the earth are given, and the luminaries remain the same, should there not be a certain cycle of the seasons ever returning at certain periods? To me it seems,

seems, that the exhalations perpetually sent up from the bowels of the earth, have no small share in the weather ; that nitrous exhalations produce cold and frost ; and that the same causes which produce earthquakes within the earth, produce storms above it. Such are the variable causes of our weather ; which, if it proceeded only from fixed and given causes, the changes thereof would be as regular as the vicissitudes of the days, or the return of eclipses. I have writ this extempore—*valeat quantum valere potest.*

Ex. 61. Feb. 9, 1747. You ask me if I had no hints from England about the primacy. I can only say, that last week I had a letter from a person of no mean rank, who seemed to wonder that he could not find I had entertained any thoughts of the primacy, while so many others of our bench were so earnestly contending for it. He added, that he hoped I would not take it ill, if my friends wished me in that station. My answer was, that I am so far from soliciting, that I do not even wish for it ; that I do not think
myself

myself the fittest man for that high post; and that therefore I neither have nor ever will ask it.

Ex. 62. Feb. 10, 1747. In a letter from England, which I told you came a week ago, it was said, that several of our Irish bishops were earnestly contending for the primacy. Pray, who are they? I thought bishop Stone was only talked of at present. I ask this question merely out of curiosity, and not from any interest, I assure you. I am no man's rival or competitor in this matter. I am not in love with feasts, and crouds, and visits, and late hours, and strange faces, and a hurry of affairs often insignificant. For my own private satisfaction, I had rather be master of my time than wear a diadem. I repeat these things to you, that I may not seem to have declined all steps to the primacy out of singularity, or pride, or stupidity, but from solid motives. As for the argument, from the opportunity of doing good, I observe, that duty obliges men in high station not to decline occasions

casions of doing good; but duty doth not oblige men to solicit such high stations.

Ex. 63. Feb. 19, 1747. The ballad you sent has mirth in it, with a political sting in the tail. But the speech of Van Haaren is excellent. I believe it lord Chesterfield's.—We have at present, and for these two days past, had frost and some snow. Our military men are at length sailed from Cork harbour. We hear they are designed for Flanders.

I must desire you to make, at leisure, the most exact and distinct enquiry you can into the characters of the Senior Fellows, as to their behaviour, temper, piety, parts, and learning: also to make a list of them, with each man's character annexed to his name. I think it of so great consequence to the public to have a good Provost, that I would willingly look beforehand, and stir a little to prepare an interest, or at least to contribute my mite where I properly may, in favour of a worthy man to fill that post, when it shall

shall become vacant. — Dr. Hales, in a letter to me, has made very honourable mention of you to me. It would not be amiss if you should correspond with him, especially for the sake of granaries and prisons.

Ex. 64. Feb. 20, 1747. Though the situation of the earth, with respect to the sun, changes, yet the changes are fixed and regular: if, therefore, this were the cause of the variation of the winds, the variation of winds must be regular, i. e. regularly returning in a cycle. To me it seems, that the variable cause of the variable winds are the subterraneous fires, which, constantly burning, but altering their operation according to the various quantity or kind of combustible materials they happen to meet with, send up exhalations more or less, of this or that species, which diversly fermenting in the atmosphere, produce uncertain, variable winds and tempests. This, if I mistake not, is the true solution of that crux. As to the papers about petrifications, which I sent to you and Mr. Simon, I do
not

not well remember the contents : but be you so good as to look them over, and shew them to some others of your society. And if, after this, you shall think them worth publishing in your collections, you may do as you please : otherwise, I would not have things hastily and carelessly written thrust into public view.

[The following anonymous piece, on a subject connected with the preceding, may deserve a place here. It is in the bishop's hand-writing, and seems to have been inserted in one of the London prints.]

To the PUBLISHER.

S I R,

Having observed it hath been offered, as a reason to persuade the public that the late shocks felt in and about London were not caused by an earthquake, because the motion was lateral, which, it is asserted, the motion of an earthquake never is, I take upon me to affirm the contrary. I have myself felt an earthquake at Messina

lina, in the year 1718, when the motion was horizontal or lateral. It did no harm in that city, but threw down several houses about a day's journey from thence.

We are not to think the late shocks merely an airquake, as they call it, on account of signs and changes in the air, such being usually observed to attend earthquakes. There is a correspondence between the subterraneous air and our atmosphere. It is probable that storms, or great concussions of the air, do often, if not always, owe their origin to vapours or exhalations issuing from below.

I remember to have heard count Tezani, at Catania, say, that some hours before the memorable earthquake of 1692, which overturned the whole city, he observed a line extended in the air, proceeding, as he judged, from exhalations poised and suspended in the atmosphere; also that he heard a hollow, frightful murmur, about a minute before the shock. Of 25,000 inhabitants, 18,000 absolutely perished; not to mention others who

L

were

were miserably bruised and wounded. There did not escape so much as one single house. The streets were narrow, and the buildings high; so there was no safety in running into the streets: but on the first tremor (which happens a small space, perhaps a few minutes, before the downfall) they found it the safest way to stand under a door-case, or at the corners of the house.

The Count was dug out of the ruins of his own house, which had overwhelmed about twenty persons; only seven whereof were got out alive. Though he rebuilt his house with stone, yet he ever after lay in a small adjoining apartment made of reeds plaistered over. Catania was rebuilt more regular and beautiful than ever: the houses, indeed, are lower, and the streets broader than before, for security against future shocks. By their account, the first shock seldom or never doth the mischief: but the *repliche*, as they term them, are to be dreaded. The earth, I was told, moved up and down like the boiling of a pot; *terra bollente*
di

di sotto in sopra, to use their own expression. This sort of subsultive motion is ever accounted the most dangerous.

Pliny, in the second book of his Natural History, observes, that all earthquakes are attended with a great stillness of the air. The same was observed at Catania. Pliny further observes; that a murmuring noise precedes the earthquake. He also remarks, that there is *signum in cælo, præceditque motu futuro, aut interdiu, aut paulo post occasum sereno, ceu tenuis linea nubis in longum porrectæ spatium*: which agrees with what was observed by count Tezzani, and others, at Catania. And all these things plainly shew the mistake of those, who surmise that noises and signs in the air do not belong to, or betoken, an earthquake, but only an airquake.

The naturalist above cited, speaking of the earth, saith, that *variè quatitur*, up and down sometimes, at others from side to side. He adds, that the effects are very various: cities one while demolished, another swallowed up; sometimes overwhelmed by water, at other times con-

fumed by fire bursting from the earth : one while the gulf remains open and yawning ; another, the sides close, not leaving the least trace or sign of the city swallowed up.

Britain is an island — *maritima autem maximè quatiuntur*, saith Pliny — and in this island are many mineral and sulphureous waters. I see nothing in the *natural* constitution of London, or the parts adjacent, that should render an earthquake impossible or improbable. Whether there be any thing in the *moral* state thereof that should exempt it from that fear, I leave others to judge. I am your humble servant,

A. B.

Ex. 65. Cloyne, March 22, 1747. As to what you say, that the primacy would have been a glorious thing, for my part I do not see, all things considered, the glory of wearing the name of Primate in these days, or of getting so much money, a thing every tradesman in London may get if he pleases. I should not choose to be primate, in pity to my children :
and

and for doing good to the world, I imagine I may, upon the whole, do as much in a lower station.

Ex. 66. June 23, 1746. I perceive the earl of Chesterfield is, whether absent or present, a friend to Ireland; and there could not have happened a luckier incident to this poor island than the friendship of such a man, when there are so few of her own great men, who either care or know how to befriend her. As my own wishes and endeavours, howsoever weak and ineffectual, have had the same tendency, I flatter myself, that on this score he honours me with his regard; which is an ample recompence for more public merit than I can pretend to. As you transcribed a line from his letter relating to me, so in return I send you a line from a letter of the bishop of Gloucester's, relating to you—I formerly told you I had mentioned you to the bishop, when I sent your scheme.—These are his words: “ I have had a great deal

“ of discourse with your lord lieutenant.
 “ He expressed his good esteem of Mr.
 “ Prior and his character, and commend-
 “ ed him as one who had no view in life
 “ but to do the utmost good he is ca-
 “ pable of. As he has seen the scheme,
 “ he may have opportunity of mention-
 “ ing it to as many of the cabinet as he
 “ pleases: but it will not be a fashion-
 “ able doctrine at this time.” So far
 the bishop. You are doubtless in the
 right, on all proper occasions, to culti-
 vate a correspondence with lord Chester-
 field. When you write, you will per-
 haps let him know, in the properest man-
 ner, the thorough sense I have of the
 honour he does me in his remembrance,
 and my concern at not having been able
 to wait on him.

Ex. 67. July 3, 1746. I send you
 back my letter, with a new paragraph
 to be added at the end, where you see
 the A.

Lord Chesterfield's letter does great
 honour both to you and his Excellency.
 The

The nation should not lose the opportunity of profiting by such a viceroy, which indeed is a rarity not to be met with every season, which grows not on every tree. I hope your society will find means of encouraging particularly the two points he recommends, glass and paper. For the former, you would do well to get your workmen from Holland rather than from Bristol. You have heard of the trick the glassmen of Bristol were said to have played Dr. Helsham and company.

My wife, with her compliments, sends you a present * by the Cork carrier, who set out yesterday. It is an offering of the first-fruits of her painting. She began to draw in last November, and did not stick to it closely, but by way of amusement only at leisure hours. For my part, I think she shews a most uncommon genius: but others may be supposed to judge more impartially than I.

* The bishop's portrait, painted by Mrs. Berkeley, now in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Archdall of Bolton-street, Dublin.

My two younger children are beginning to employ themselves the same way. In short, here are two or three families in Imokilly * bent upon painting : and I wish it was more general among the ladies and idle people, as a thing that may divert the spleen, improve the manufactures, and increase the wealth of the nation. We will endeavour to profit by our lord lieutenant's advice, and kindle up new arts with a spark of his public spirit.

Mr. Simon has wrote to me, desiring I would become a member of the historico-physical society. I wish them well; but do not care to list myself among them : for, in that case, I should think myself obliged to do somewhat which might interrupt my other studies. I must therefore depend on you for getting me out of this scrape, and hinder Mr. Simon's proposing me; which he inclines to do, at the request, it seems, of the bishop of Meath. And this, with my

* The village of Cloyne is in the barony of Imokilly, county of Cork.

service,

service, will be a sufficient answer to Mr. Simon's letter,

Ex. 68. Sept. 12, 1746. I am just returned from a tour through my diocese, of 130 miles, almost shaken to pieces. What you write of bishop Stone's preferment, is highly probable. For myself, though his Excellency the lord lieutenant might have a better opinion of me than I deserved, yet it was not likely that he would make an Irishman primate. The truth is, I have had a scheme of my own for this long time past, in which I propose more satisfaction and enjoyment to myself than I could in that high station, which I neither solicited nor so much as wished for. It is true, the primacy, or archbishopric of Dublin, if offered, might have tempted me, by a greater opportunity of doing good: but there is no other preferment in the kingdom to be desired, on any other account than a greater *income*; which would not tempt me to remove from Cloyne, and set aside my Oxford scheme, on which,
though

though delayed by the illness of my son, yet I am as intent and as much resolved as ever.

Ex. 69. Feb. 2, 1749. Three days ago we received the box of pictures. The two men's heads with ruffs are well done; the third is a copy, and ill-coloured: they are all Flemish: so is the woman, which is also very well painted, though it hath not the beauty and freedom of an Italian pencil. The two Dutch pictures, containing animals, are well done, as to the animals: but the human figures and sky are ill done. The two pictures of ruins are very well done, and are Italian. My son William * had already copied two other pictures of the same kind, and by the same hand. He and his sister are both employed in copying pictures at present; which shall be dispatched as

* A fine youth, the second son of the bishop, whose loss, at an early age, was thought to have stuck too close to his father's heart.

soon

soon as possible ; after which they will set about some of yours. Their stint, on account of health, is an hour and half a day for painting. So I doubt two months will not suffice for copying : but no time shall be lost, and great care taken of your pictures, for which we hold ourselves much obliged.—Our round tower stands where it did; but a little stone arched vault on the top was cracked, and must be repaired: the bell also was thrown down, and broke its way through three boarded stories, but remains entire. The door was shivered into many small pieces, and dispersed; and there was a stone forced out of the wall. The whole damage, it is thought, will not amount to twenty pounds. The thunder-clap was by far the greatest that I ever heard in Ireland.

Ex. 70. March 30, 1751. They are going to print at Glasgow two editions at once, in quarto and in folio, of all Plato's works, in most magnificent types. This work should be encouraged: it would

would be right to mention it, as you have opportunity *.

To the Rev. Mr. ARCHDALL, Bolton-street, Dublin.

Cloyne; Dec. 8, 1751. Rev. Sir, This is to desire you may publish the inscription I sent you in Faulkner's paper. But say nothing of the author. I must desire you to cause the letters G. B. being the initial letters of my name, to be engraved on the die of the gold medal, at the bottom, beneath the race-horse; whereby mine will be distinguished from medals given by others.

To the same.

Dec. 22, 1751. I thank you for the care you have taken in publishing the

* Mr. Prior died the 21st of October following, aged 71. The inscription mentioned in the next article, was for his monument in Christ-Church cathedral, erected at the expence of Mr. Prior's friends and admirers.

inscription so correctly, as likewise for your trouble in getting G. B. engraved on the plain at the bottom of the medal. When that is done, you may order two medals to be made, and given as usual. I would have only two made by my die: the multiplying of premiums lessens their value. If my inscription is to take place, let me know before it is engraved: I may perhaps make some trifling alteration.

No date: but sent, at this time, to the same.—For the particulars of your last favour I give you thanks. I send the above bill to clear what you have expended on my account, and also ten guineas beside; which is my contribution towards the monument, which I understand is intended for our deceased friend. Yesterday, though ill of the cholic, yet I could not forbear sketching out the inclosed. I wish it did justice to his character. Such as it is, I submit it to you and your friends.

Enclosed

Enclosed in the above :

Memoriæ sacrum

THOMÆ PRIOR,

Viri, si quis unquam alius, de patriâ

optimè meriti :

Qui, cum prodesse mallet quàm conspici,

nec in senatum cooptatus,

nec consiliorum aulæ particeps,

nec ullo publico munere insignitus,

rem tamen publicam

mirificè auxit et ornavit

auspiciis, consiliis, labore indefesso.

Vir innocuus, probus, pius ;

partium studiis minimè addictus,

de re familiari parum sollicitus,

cum civium commoda unicè spectaret :

Quicquid vel ad inopiæ levamen

vel ad vitæ elegantiam facit,

quicquid ad desidiam populi vincendam

aut ad bonas artes excitandas pertinet,

id omne pro virili excoluit :

Societatis Dubliniensis

auctor, institutor, curator.

Quæ fecerit

pluribus dicere haud refert :

quorsum narraret marmor

illa quæ omnes nôrunt,

illa quæ, civium animis insculpta,

nulla dies delebit ?

This monument was erected to Thomas Prior, Esquire, at the charge of several persons who contributed to honour the memory of that worthy patriot, to whom his own actions and unwearied endeavours in the service of his country, have raised a monument more lasting than marble.

Jan. 7, 1752. I here send you enclosed the inscription, with my last amendments. In the printed copy, *Siquis* was one word: it had better be two, divided, as in this. There are some other small changes, which you will observe. The bishop of Meath was for having somewhat in English: accordingly I subjoin an English addition, to be engraved in a different character, and in continued lines (as it is written), beneath the Latin. The bishop writes, that contributions come in slowly, but that near one hundred guineas are got. Now it should seem, that if the first plan, rated at two hundred guineas, was reduced or altered, there might be a plain, neat monument erected for one hundred guineas,

neas, and so (as the proverb directs) the coat be cut according to the cloth.

To the Rev. Mr. Gervais, sen.

Cloyne, Nov. 25, 1738. Rev. Sir, My wife sends her compliments to Mrs. Gervais and yourself for the receipt, &c.; and we both concur in thanks for your vention. The rain hath so defaced your letter, that I cannot read some parts of it: but I can make a shift to see there is a compliment of so bright a strain, that, if I knew how to read it, I am sure I should not know how to answer it. If there was any thing agreeable in your entertainment at my house, it was chiefly owing to yourself, and so requires my acknowledgment, which you have very sincere. You give so much pleasure to others, and are so easily pleased yourself, that I shall live in hopes of your making my house your inn, whenever you visit these parts, which will be very agreeable to, &c.

Jan. 12, 1742. You forgot to mention your address, else I should have sooner acknowledged

acknowledged the favour of your letter; for which I am much obliged, though the news it contained had nothing good but the manner of telling it. I had much rather write you a letter of congratulation than of comfort; and yet I must needs tell you, for your comfort, that I apprehend you miscarry by having too many friends. We often see a man, with one only at his back, pushed on and making his way, while another is embarrassed in a crowd of well-wishers. The best of it is, your merits will not be measured by your success. It is an old remark, that the race is not always to the swift: but at present who wins it, matters little; for all protestant clergymen are like soon to be at par, if that old priest *, your countryman, continues to carry on his schemes with the same policy and success he has hitherto done. The accounts you send agree with what I hear from other parts :

* Cardinal Fleuri, then 87 years old. Dean Gervais was a native of Montpellier, who was carried an infant out of France, on the revocation of the edict of Nantz, in 1680.

they are all alike dismal. Reserve yourself, however, for future times, and mind the main chance. I would say, shun late hours, drink tar-water, and bring back (I wish a good deanry, but at least) a good stock of health and spirits, to grace our little parties in Imokilly, where we hope, ere it be long, to see you and the fun returned together. My wife, who values herself on being in the number of your friends, is extremely obliged for the Italian psalms you have procured; and desires me to tell you, that the more you can procure, the more she shall be obliged. We join in wishing you many happy new years, health, and success.

Feb. 2, 1742. I condole with you on your cold;—a circumstance that a man of fashion, who keeps late hours, can hardly escape. We find here that a spoonful, half tar and half honey, taken morning, noon, and night, proves a most effectual remedy in that case. My wife, who values herself on being in your good graces, expresses great gratitude for your care in procuring the psalms; and is doubly
pleased

pleased with the prospect of your being yourself the bearer. The instrument she desired to be provided, was a large four-stringed bass violin : but besides this, we shall also be extremely glad to get that excellent bass viol which came from France, be the number of strings what it will. I wrote indeed (not to overload you) to Dean Browne * to look out for a six-stringed bass viol, of an old make and mellow tone. But the more we have of good instruments the better ; for I have got an excellent master, whom I have taken into my family ; and all my children, not excepting my little daughter, learn to play, and are preparing to fill my house with harmony against all events ; that if we have worse times, we may have better spirits. Our French woman is grown more attentive to her business, and so much altered for the better, that my wife is not now inclined to part with her ; but

* Jemmatt Brown, then dean of Rossé, bishop of Killaloe in 1743, of Dromore in 1745, of Cork the same year, of Elphin in 1772, and archbishop of Tuam in 1775 : died in 1782.

is nevertheless very sensibly obliged by your kind offer to look out for another. What you say of a certain pamphlet is ænigmatical: I shall hope to have it explained *vivâ voce*. As this corner furnishes nothing worth sending, you will pardon me, if, instead of other news, I transcribe a paragraph of a letter I lately received from an English bishop. “ We
 “ are now shortly to meet again in parlia-
 “ ment, and by the proceedings upon
 “ the state of the nation Sir Robert’s fate
 “ will be determined. He is doing all
 “ he can to recover a majority in the
 “ House of Commons, and is said to have
 “ succeeded as to some particulars: but
 “ in his main attempt, which was that
 “ of uniting the prince and his court to
 “ the king’s, he has been foiled. The
 “ bishop of Oxford * was employed to
 “ carry the proposal to the prince, which
 “ was that he should have the 100,000/
 “ a year he had demanded, and his debts
 “ paid: but the prince, at the same time
 “ that he expressed the utmost respect

* Secker.

“ and

“ and duty to his Majesty, declared so
 “ much dislike to his minister, that,
 “ without his removal, he will hearken
 “ to no terms.” I have also had another
 piece, in the following words, which is
 very agreeable. “ Lady Dorothy *, whose
 “ good temper seems as great as her beau-
 “ ty, and who has gained on every one
 “ by her behaviour in these most unhappy
 “ circumstances, is said at last to have
 “ gained over lord Euston, and to have en-
 “ tirely won his affection.” I find, by your
 letter, the reigning distemper at the Irish
 court, is disappointment. A man of less
 spirits and alacrity would be apt to cry
 out, *spes & fortuna valete!* &c. but my
 advice is, never to quit your hopes. Hope
 is often better than enjoyment. Hope is
 often the cause, as well as the effect, of
 youth : it is certainly a very pleasant and
 healthy passion. A hopeless person is
 deserted by himself ; and he who forsakes
 himself is soon forsaken by friends and

* Lady Dorothy Boyle, daughter of the earl of
 Burlington, and wife to lord Euston, son of the
 duke of Grafton.

fortune, both which are sincerely wished you by, &c.

March 5, 1742. Your last letter, containing an account of the queen of Hungary and her affairs, was all over agreeable. My wife and I are not a little pleased to find her situation so much better than we expected, and greatly applaud your zeal for her interests; though we are divided upon the motive of it. She imagines you would be less zealous, were the queen old and ugly; and will have it, that her beauty has set you on fire, even at this distance. I, on the contrary, affirm, that you are not made of such combustible stuff; that you are affected only by the love of justice, and insensible to all other flames than those of patriotism. We hope soon for your presence at Cloyne, to put an end to this controversy. — Your care in providing the Italian psalms set to music, the four-stringed bass violin, and the antique bass viol, requires our repeated thanks. We had already a bass viol, made in Southwark A. D. 1730, and reputed the best in England; and,
through

through your means, we are possessed of the best in France: so we have a fair chance for having the two best in Europe. —Your letter gives me hopes of a new and prosperous scene. We live in an age of revolutions so sudden and surprising, in all parts of Europe, that I question whether the like has been ever known before. Hands are changed at home: it is well if measures are so too. If not, I shall be afraid of this change of hands; for hungry dogs bite deepest. But let those in power look to this. We behold these vicissitudes with an equal eye from this serene corner of Cloyne, where we hope soon to have the perusal of your budget of politics. Mean time accept our service and good wishes.

Sept. 6, 1743. The book which you were so good as to procure for me (and which I shall not pay for till you come to receive the money in person) contains all that part of Dr. Pococke's travels, for which I have any curiosity: so I shall, with my thanks for this, give you no further trouble about any other

volume. — I find by the letter put into my hands by your son (who was so kind as to call here yesterday, but not kind enough to stay a night with us), that you are taken up with great matters, and, like other great men, in danger of overlooking your friends. Prepare, however, for a world of abuse, both as a courtier and an architect, if you do not find means to wedge in a visit to Cloyne between those two grand concerns. Courtiers you will find none here, and but such virtuosi as the country affords ; I mean in the way of music, for that is at present the reigning passion at Cloyne. To be plain, we are musically mad. If you would know what that is, come and see.

Oct. 29, 1743. A bird of the air has told me that your reverence is to be dean of Tuam. No nightingale could have sung a more pleasing song, not even my wife, who, I am told, is this day inferior to no singer in the kingdom. I promise you we are preparing no contemptible chorus to celebrate your preferment : and if you do not believe me, come, this
Christmas,

Christmas, and believe your own ears. In good earnest, none of your friends will be better pleased to see you, with your broad seal in your pocket, than your friends at Cloyne. I wish I were able to wish you joy at Dublin; but my health, though not a little mended, suffers me to make no excursions farther than a mile or two.—What is this your favourite, the queen of Hungary, has been doing, by her emissaries at Petersburg? France is again upon her legs. I foresee no good. I wish all this may be vapours and spleen: but I write in sunshine.

Jan. 8, 1744. You have obliged the ladies, as well as myself, by your candid judgment on the point submitted to your determination. I am glad this matter proved an amusement in your gout, by bringing you acquainted with several curious and select trials *, which I should readily purchase, and accept your kind

* Collection of Trials in France, published under the title of *Causes Celebres*.

offer of procuring them, if I did not apprehend there might be some among them of too delicate a nature to be read by boys and girls, to whom my library, and particularly all French books, are open.—As to foreign affairs, we cannot descry or prognosticate any good event from this remote corner. The planets that seemed propitious, are now retrograde: Russia, Sweden, and Prussia lost; and the Dutch a nominal ally at best. You may now admire the queen of Hungary, without a rival: her conduct, with respect to the Czarina and the Marquis de Botta, hath, I fear, rendered cold the hearts of her friends, and their hands feeble. To be plain, from this time forward I doubt we shall languish, and our enemies take heart. And while I am thus perplexed about foreign affairs, my private œconomy (I mean the animal œconomy) is disordered by the sciatica; an evil which has attended me for some time past; and, I apprehend, will not leave me till the return of the sun.—Certainly the news that I want to hear at present is not from Rome, or Paris,

or

or Vienna, but from Dublin; viz. when the dean of Tuam is declared, and when he receives the congratulations of his friends. I constantly read the news from Dublin; but lest I should overlook this article, I take upon me to congratulate you at this moment; that as my good wishes were not, so my compliments may not be behind those of your other friends.—You have entertained me with so many curious things, that I would fain send something in return worth reading. But as this quarter affords nothing from itself, I must be obliged to transcribe a bit of an English letter that I received last week. It relates to what is now the subject of public attention, the Hanover troops, and is as follows:

“ General Campbell (a thorough courtier) being called upon in the House of
 “ Commons to give an account whether
 “ he had not observed some instances of
 “ partiality, replied, he could not say he
 “ had: but this he would say, that he
 “ thought the forces of the two nations
 “ could never draw together again. This,
 “ coming from the mouth of a courtier,
 “ was

“ was looked on as an ample confes-
 “ sion: however, it was carried against
 “ the address by a large majority. Had
 “ the question been, whether the Hano-
 “ ver troops should be continued, it
 “ would not have been a debate: but it
 “ being well known that the contrary
 “ had been resolved upon before the
 “ meeting of parliament, the moderate
 “ part of the opposition thought it was
 “ unnecessary, and might prove hurtful,
 “ to address about it, and so voted with
 “ the court.” You see how I am forced
 to lengthen out my letter by adding a
 borrowed scrap of news, which yet prob-
 ably is no news to you. But though I
 should shew you nothing new, yet you
 must give me leave to shew my inclina-
 tion, at least to acquit myself of the
 debts I owe you, and to declare my-
 self, &c.

March 16, 1744. I think myself a piece
 of a prophet, when I foretold that the
 pretender's cardinal feigned to aim at your
 head, when he meant to strike you, like
 a skilful fencer, on the ribs. It is true
 one

one would hardly think the French such bunglers : but this popish priest hath manifestly bungled so, as to repair the breaches our own bunglers had made at home. This is the luckiest thing that could have happened, and will, I hope, confound all the measures of our enemies.—I was much obliged and delighted with the good news you lately sent, which was yesterday confirmed by letters from Dublin. And though particulars are not yet known, I did not think fit to delay our public marks of joy, as a great bonfire before my gate, firing of guns, drinking of healths, &c. I was very glad of this opportunity to put a little spirit into our drooping protestants of Cloyne, who have of late conceived no small fears on seeing themselves in such a defenceless condition, among so great a number of papists, elated with the fame of these new enterprizes in their favour. It is indeed terrible to reflect, that we have neither arms nor militia, in a province where the papists are eight to one, and have an earlier intelligence than we have of what passes : by what means I know not ;

not; but the fact is certainly true.—Good Mr. Dean (for Dean I will call you, resolving not to be behind your friends in Dublin) you must know, that to us, who live in this remote corner, many things seem strange and unaccountable, that may be solved by you who are near the fountain head. Why are draughts made from our forces, when we most want them? Why are not the militia arrayed? How comes it to pass that arms are not put into the hands of protestants, especially since they have been so long paid for? Did not our ministers know, for a long time past, that a squadron was forming at Brest? Why did they not then bruise the cockatrice in the egg? Would not the French works at Dunkirk have justified this step? Why was Sir John Norris called off from the chace, when he had his enemies in full view, and was even at their heels with a superior force? As we have 240 men of war, whereof 120 are of the line, how comes it that we did not appoint a squadron to watch and intercept the Spanish admiral with his thirty millions of pieces of eight? In an age wherein articles

cles

cles of religious faith are canvassed with the utmost freedom, we think it lawful to propose these scruples in our political faith, which in many points wants to be enlightened and set right.—Your last was writ by the hand of a fair lady, to whom both my wife and I send our compliments, as well as to yourself: I wish you joy of being able to write yourself. My cholic is changed to gout and sciatica, the tar-water having drove it into my limbs, and, as I hope, carrying it off by those ailments, which are nothing to the cholic.

Jan. 6, 1745. Two days ago I was favoured with a very agreeable visit from baron Mounteney and Mr. Bristow. I hear they have taken Lismore in their way to Dublin.—We want a little of your foreign fire to raise our Irish spirits in this heavy season. This makes your purpose of coming very agreeable news. We will chop politics together, sing *Io Pæan* to the duke, revile the Dutch, admire the king of Sardinia, and applaud the earl of Chesterfield, whose name is
sacred

sacred all over this island, except Lismore; and what should put your citizens of Lismore out of humour with his Excellency, I cannot comprehend. But the discussion of these points must be deferred to your wished-for arrival.

Feb. 6, 1745. You say you carried away regret from Cloyne. I assure you that you did not carry it all away: there was a good share of it left with us; which was on the following news-day increased, upon hearing the fate of your niece. My wife could not read this piece of news without tears, though her knowledge of that amiable young lady was no more than one day's acquaintance. Her mournful widower is beset with many temporal blessings: but the loss of such a wife must be long felt through them all. Complete happiness is not to be hoped for on this side Gascony. All those who are not Gascons must have a corner of woe to creep out at, and to comfort themselves with, at parting from this world. Certainly if we had nothing to make us uneasy here, heaven itself would be less wished

wished for. But I should remember I am writing to a philosopher and divine; so shall turn my thoughts to politics, concluding with this sad reflection, that, happen what will, I see the Dutch are still to be favourites, though I much apprehend the hearts of some warm friends may be lost at home, by endeavouring to gain the affections of those lukewarm neighbours.

June 3, 1745. I congratulate with you on the success of your late dose of physic. The gout, as Dr. Sydenham styles it, is *amarissimum naturæ pharmacum*. It throws off a sharp excrement from the blood to the limbs and extremities of the body, and is not less useful than painful. I think, Mr. Dean, you have paid for the gay excursion you made last winter to the metropolis and the court. And yet, such is the condition of mortals, I foresee you will forget the pain next winter, and return to the same course of life which brought it on.—As to our warlike achievements, if I were to rate our successes by our merits, I could

forebode little good. But if we are sinners, our enemies are no saints. It is my opinion, we shall heartily maul one another, without any signal advantage on either side. How the sullen English squires, who pay the piper, will like this dance, I cannot tell. For my own part, I cannot help thinking, that land expeditions are but ill suited either to the force or interest of England; and that our friends would do more, if we did less, on the continent.—Were I to send my son from home, I assure you there is no one to whose prudent care and good-nature I would sooner trust him than yours. But as I am his physician, I think myself obliged to keep him with me. Besides, as after so long an illness his constitution is very delicate, I imagine this warm vale of Cloyne is better suited to it than your lofty and exposed situation of Lismore. Nevertheless my wife and I are extremely obliged by your kind offer, and concur in our hearty thanks for it.

Nov.

Nov. 24, 1745. You are in for life. Not all the philosophers have been saying, these three thousand years, on the vanity of riches, the cares of greatness, and the brevity of human life, will be able to reclaim you. However, as it is observed, that most men have patience enough to bear the misfortunes of others, I am resolved not to break my heart for my old friend, if you should prove so unfortunate as to be made a bishop.—The reception you met with from lord Chesterfield was perfectly agreeable to his Excellency's character, who, being so *clair-voyant* in every thing else, could not be supposed blind to your merit.—Your friends the Dutch have shewed themselves; what I always took them to be, selfish and ungenerous. To crown all, we are now told the forces they sent us have private orders not to fight: I hope we shall not want them.—By the letter you favoured me with, I find the regents of our university have shewn their loyalty at the expence of their wit. The poor

N 2

dead

dead Dean *, though no idolater of the whigs, was no more a Jacobite than Dr. Baldwin. And had he been even a Papist, what then? Wit is of no party.— We have been alarmed with a report that a great body of rapparees is up in the county of Kilkenny: these are looked on by some as the fore-runners of an insurrection. In opposition to this, our militia have been arrayed, that is, sworn: but, alas! we want not oaths, we want musquets. I have bought up all I could

* Immediately after Dean Swift's death, the class of Senior Sophisters, in the college of Dublin, determined to apply a sum of money, raised among themselves, and usually expended on an entertainment, to the purpose of honouring the memory of that great man by a bust to be set up in the college library. Provost Baldwin, being a staunch whig, and having once smarted by an epigram of the Dean's, it was confidently thought, would have refused his consent to this measure; and the talk of the town about this time was, that the board of Senior Fellows would enter implicitly into the same sentiments. But the event soon proved the falsehood of such an unworthy report: the bust was admitted without the least opposition, and is now in the library.

get,

get, and provided horses and arms for four-and-twenty of the Protestants of Cloyne; which, with a few more that can furnish themselves, make up a troop of thirty horse. This seemed necessary to keep off rogues in these doubtful times. — May we hope to gain a sight of you in the recess? Were I as able to go to town, how readily should I wait on my lord lieutenant and the dean of Tuam. Your letters are so much tissue of gold and silver: in return I am forced to send you from this corner a patch-work of taylor's shreds, for which I entreat your compassion; and that you will believe me, &c.

Feb. 24, 1746. I am heartily sensible of your loss, which yet admits of alleviation, not only from the common motives which have been repeated every day for upwards of five thousand years, but also from your own peculiar knowledge of the world, and the variety of distresses which occur in all ranks, from the highest to the lowest: I may add, too,

from the peculiar times in which we live, which seem to threaten still more wretched and unhappy times to come.

*Ætas parentum pejor avis tulit
Nos nequiores, mox daturos
Progeniem vitiosiore.*

Nor is it a small advantage, that you have a peculiar resource against distress from the gaiety of your own temper. Such is the hypochondriac, melancholy complexion of us islanders, that we seem made of butter, every accident makes such a deep impression upon us; but those elastic spirits which are your birthright, cause the strokes of fortune to rebound without leaving a trace behind them: though for a time there is and will be a gloom, which, I agree with your friends, is best dispelled at the court and metropolis, amidst a variety of faces and amusements. I wish I was able to go with you, and pay my duty to the lord lieutenant; but, alas! the disorder I had this winter, and my long retreat, have disabled me for the road, and
disqualified

disqualified me for a court. But if I see you not in Dublin, which I wish I may be able to do, I shall hope to see you at Cloyne, when you can be spared from better company. These sudden changes and tossings from side to side, betoken a fever in the state. But whatever ails the body politic, take care of your own bodily health, and let no anxious cares break in upon it.

Nov. 8, 1746. Your letter with news from the Castle found me in bed, confined by the gout. In answer to which news I can only say, that I neither expect nor wish for any dignity higher than what I am encumbered with at present.—That which more nearly concerns me is my credit, which I am glad to find so well supported by admiral Lestock. I had promised you, that before the first of November he would take king Lewis by the beard. Now Quimpercorrentin, Quimperlay, and Quimperen, being certain extreme parts or excrescences of his kingdom, may not improperly be styled the beard of France. In proof of his having
been

been there, he has plundered the wardrobes of the peasants, and imported a great number of old petticoats, waistcoats, wooden shoes, and one shirt, all which are actually sold at Cove: the shirt was bought by a man of this town for a groat: and if you won't believe me, come and believe your own eyes. In case you doubt either the facts or the reasonings, I am ready to make them good, being now well on my feet, and longing to triumph over you at Cloyne, which I hope will be soon.

April 6, 1752. Your letter by last post was very agreeable: but the trembling hand with which it was written is a drawback from the satisfaction I should otherwise have had in hearing from you. If my advice had been taken, you would have escaped so many miserable months in the gout, and the bad air of Dublin: but advice against inclination is seldom successful. Mine was very sincere, though I must own a little interested; for we often wanted your enlivening company to dissipate the gloom of Cloyne. This I
look

look on as enjoying France at second-hand. I wish any thing but the gout could fix you among us. But bustle and intrigue and great affairs have, and will, as long as you exist on this globe, fix your attention. For my own part, I submit to years and infirmities. My views in this world are mean and narrow: it is a thing in which I have small share, and which ought to give me small concern. I abhor business, and especially to have to do with great persons and great affairs; which I leave to such as you, who delight in them, and are fit for them. The evening of life I choose to pass in a quiet retreat. Ambitious projects, intrigues, and quarrels of statesmen, are things I have formerly been amused with; but they now seem to me a vain, fugitive dream. If you thought as I do, we should have more of your company, and you less of the gout. We have not those transports of you Castle-hunters; but our lives are calm and serene. We do, however, long to see you open your budget of politics by our fire-side. My wife and all here salute

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you, and fend you, instead of compliments, their best sincere wishes for your health and safe return. The part you take in my son's recovery is very obliging to us all, and particularly to, &c.

G. CLOYNE.



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To exhibit a faithful report of every new Publication, is an undertaking of very extensive utility. It affords the means of instruction to the studious, and it amuses the idle. It blends knowledge and relaxation; and ought to hold out and ascertain the progressive improvements, as well as the reigning follies of mankind. It is, therefore, a matter of surprize, that two Publications only of the critical kind should have been able to establish themselves in England. That another should start for the public approbation, cannot justly be a subject of wonder, in the present enlarged condition of our literature. To censure established performances might, indeed, lead to a suspicion of envy, and would certainly be ungenerous; but to contend with them in merit, ought to be understood as expressive of a commendable courage, and of a disposition to excel.

The Work which we announce, while it has in view the general purposes of science and literature, in common with the two Literary Journals that still maintain their importance, is not to be entirely confined to them. It is, therefore, proper to detail with precision the objects which it means to pursue and to cultivate.

I. It is proposed, that THE ENGLISH REVIEW shall contain an account of every book and pamphlet which shall appear in England, Scotland, Ireland, and America.

II. It is proposed to give occasional accounts of literature in France, Italy, Germany, and Spain.

III. As there is a necessary connection between eminent men and their writings, this work will frequently comprehend original memoirs of celebrated authors. And in this department an extreme care will be exerted to attain the truth.

IV. The arts, from which polished nations derive so much advantage and splendour, will employ, at the same time, the attention of the authors. The performances of great masters will draw in a particular manner their curiosity, when they serve to enlighten our history, to adorn illustrious events, and to signalize honourable and gallant achievements.

V. As there is a reciprocal action of government on literature, and of literature on government, it is likewise intended to delineate monthly the picture of the political state of Europe; and, at the termination of every year, to furnish a succinct but comprehensive survey of the more important revolutions which shall have taken place during the course of it.

Such are the objects which have attracted the attention of the authors, who have engaged in THE ENGLISH REVIEW: and, in the prosecution of them, they are sincerely disposed to consult the best purposes of learning and patriotism. Unconscious of any improper bias upon their minds, they feel themselves animated to exercise that candour and impartiality, which are so often professed, and so seldom practised. Free and independent of any influence, they will endeavour to deliver their opinions with the respect which they owe to the Public, and with that exact fidelity, and those scrupulous attentions to justice, which ought invariably to distinguish their labours. They have no partialities and prejudices to gratify; are not impelled by any motives of faction; and the happiest recompence for which they wish, is the praise of their fellow-citizens.

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